

## MPs told of crumbling local prisons

The Commons Select Committee on House Affairs yesterday called for "urgent action" to repeated demands for improvements to decaying local prisons. In evidence to the committee, Mr D Buttery, head of the division of the prison buildings department, said: "The whole state is collapsing around our ears, and it needs massive injection of capital if we are to have prisons standing at the end of the decade".

## Toxteth inquiry extended

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has announced that he will extend the inquiry into the Toxteth riots into a third week. Courts have sentenced 220 people for their part in recent inner-city riots but more than 1,000 cases have yet to be concluded. Riot reports, page 3

## Titanic keeps its secrets

A Texas oil millionaire's 500,000 expedition to find the Titanic wreck has returned to Boston empty-handed from the Atlantic. In 10 days of seabed scanning it found "some objects which may have come from the Titanic" though one of them might be a sea eel, a team expert conceded. Page 8

## Doctors split on kidney deaths

A report that 122 National Health patients died of kidney failure because of inadequate facilities has been countered by medical experts who found that in each case there were other causes. But statistics confirm that Britain lags behind many continental countries in the scope of kidney treatment per million of population. Page 2

## Reform plan for Chinese industry

Reform measures which will decentralize the nations main industries and remove Communist Party committees from everyday intervention in factory management are being introduced by the Chinese leadership. Page 5

## MPs in uproar over Springboks

The New Zealand House of Representatives broke up in a row after a minister was suspended for accusing the opposition of cowardice over a quest for a debate on the Springboks. Government MPs said the Opposition acted to deny them a chance to reply before the adjournment. Page 8

## Mugabe judge

imbabwe has appointed a West Indian as the country's first black Supreme Court judge. He is Professor Telford Georges, who came to Salisbury last December to help the Government incorporate traditional law in judicial decisions. Page 6

## Nuclear policy

White Paper confirms the government's support for the universal nuclear program and water reactor and reaffirms its intention to build one power station per year until 1990. It rejects many recommendations on conservation and coal from a select committee on energy. Page 4

## Africa kept out

The International Cricket Conference decided at its annual meeting not to readmit South Africa. The South African team had been banned from its Prime Minister's promise to amend three of its laws which ban multi-racial sport. Page 7

## Preview guide to the wedding

day's Preview, the arts and entertainments guide published by the Times, has been expanded to 12 pages. There is a section on the royal wedding. Details of transport, vanes points along the route, entertainments, exhibitions and giant fireworks display in the park on the eve of the wedding are included in the guide, together with Preview's panned coverage of films, theatre, music, galleries, sports, advertising and family outings under the country.

me News 2-4  
ereses 5, 6, 8  
pits 16, 23  
date 11  
siness 19-24  
art 17, 18  
sponsored 28  
ry 14  
tures 12, 14  
Report 8  
ters 15

Lurie cartoon 6  
Motoring 25  
Obituary 16  
Parliament 9  
Safe Room 16  
Science 3  
Sport 17, 18  
Theatre, etc 27  
25 Years Ago 16  
Weather 28  
Wills 15

Information service, back page  
University results, page 25

# Begin scorns 'astonishing' rebuke from Weinberger

Mr Begin yesterday rejected public charges by Mr Weinberger, the American Secretary of Defence, that Israeli actions had twice wrecked American peace efforts in the Middle East. In Washington an embarrassed Administration said it did not regard Mr Begin as an obstacle to peace.

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, July 23

The recent severe strain on Israel's relations with America, further today when Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, rejected public criticism levelled at him by Mr Caspar Weinberger, the American Defence Secretary—which he described as "astonishing". Mr Begin was reacting to accusations that Israel's belligerent security policy had twice in recent weeks sabotaged the peace initiatives of Mr Philip Habib, America's Middle East envoy.

Mr Weinberger's remarks—made during a television programme—were the most outspoken criticism of the right-wing Israeli Government yet voiced by a senior member of the Reagan Administration. A statement issued from Mr Begin's office today responded: "The Secretary of Defence of the United States is reported to have stated that, on two occasions, Mr Philip Habib was about to reach agreement, but failed because of the Israeli operations against the reactor near Baghdad and the headquarters of the Arab terrorist organizations in Beirut."

"The Prime Minister met frequently with Mr Habib for many hours of conversation during these events, but never once did he learn such 'news' from him," Mr Caspar Weinberger alleged that the Prime Minister does not behave with "moderation". This reaction to Mr Weinberger's astonishing remark is illustrative of the Prime Minister's manifest moderation.

During the recent Israeli election campaign, Mr Begin delivered a bitter personal attack on Mr Weinberger, and diplomats here say that rarely, if ever, has there been such a depth of ill feeling between a senior member of the American Government and an Israeli Prime Minister.

The force of Mr Weinberger's remarks and the tone of Mr Begin's reply have served to destroy claims by some prominent members of the Begin Cabinet that there is no crisis between Israel and America. There is, however, official satisfaction here that President Reagan has so far appeared to remain above the fray.

Relations with America were discussed today when the Cabinet held its second emergency meeting of the week. Ministers centred on future military strategy in Lebanon.

The Cabinet meeting was declared a ministerial security committee, a body whose deliberations are classified under Israeli law, and no communication was issued. But it is understood that discussions centred on future tactics to counter the continuing Palestinian rocket attacks against towns and settlements in northern Israel.

It is known that there is virtually no opposition among senior ministers to Mr Begin's flat rejection of any limited form of ceasefire which might allow the Palestinians to reorganize. The Government's view is that it is better to suffer international condemnation

## Labour defence spokesman threatens to resign

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

If the Labour Party decides at its annual conference in September to support the anti-nuclear defence policy endorsed by the national executive on Wednesday, Mr Brynmor Jones, MP for Pontypridd, the Opposition's front bench spokesman on defence, will probably resign his position.

Last night he saw Mr Foot, the Opposition leader, to tell him of his disagreement with the NEC policy. So far Mr Jones has relied on the backing of a majority in the Parliamentary Labour Party and the Shadow Cabinet for his advocacy of continued membership of Nato and the deployment of nuclear weapons as a deterrent to the Soviet Union. That policy is seen as a means of bringing the Russians to the conference table to discuss multilateral nuclear disarmament.

This stand he has been backed by Mr Denis Healey, the shadow Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary and deputy leader of the party, who moved a series of amendments on Wednesday only to be defeated. As a result, the party is being asked to endorse—and there is every possibility that it will do so—a pledge that a future Labour government will close down all nuclear bases, British or American, on British soil or in British territorial waters. Mr Healey pleaded without success for continued support for Nato. He said that the



Part of Bryan Organ's portrait unveiled yesterday.

## Lady Diana wears the trousers

By John Witherow

In what must be one of the first portraits to show a woman member of the Royal Family wearing trousers, the National Portrait Gallery in London yesterday unveiled the official painting of Lady Diana Spencer.

Bryan Organ, who painted in seven weeks, appeared distinctly nervous as he told a jostling crowd: "We tried our best. We just hope that you give it a chance."

Mr Organ, who selected the clothes, received a mixed reception for his earlier portraits of Princess Margaret and the Prince of Wales from critics. The picture of Princess Margaret caused so much fuss that Mr Organ went into hiding for three weeks.

His portrait of Lady Diana, however, despite the trousers, is markedly less controversial and has won the approval of the Royal Family. It shows her sitting sideways on a chair, dressed in a black trouser suit with gold piping and a cream shirt. He placed her directly in front of a pale blue door flanked by elegant green wall-paper in the Yellow Drawing Room in Buckingham Palace.

Her legs are casually crossed and her left foot is excluded from the painting. "That's pretty normal in portraits. It gives one an impression of height," Dr John Hayes, the director of the gallery, said.

Mr Organ had six or seven working sessions with Lady Diana and completed the portrait from sketches and photographs. There is the hint of a smile on her lips and Mr Organ, who refused to disclose their discussions, said: "We had a very good working relationship. There were no problems."

His portrait of Prince Charles, unveiled in February, found considerable favour with the Prince, and the Royal Family readily accepted the gallery's suggestion that Mr Organ should paint his future bride. By all accounts they are pleased with the result.

The National Portrait Gallery, which is celebrating its 250th birthday, was unhappy with the picture in any way we would not be here today," he said.

The gallery paid £4,000 to commission the work, the same fee for the portrait of Prince Charles. Dr Hayes called it "a stunning portrait. It is totally different from the normal portraits of royal persons and I think her natural warmth and inner strength come through."

The gallery has now commissioned Mr Organ, aged 46, to paint Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, and Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour prime minister. Lady Diana's portrait will be hung in the gallery alongside Mr Organ's picture of Prince Charles. □ Jeffrey Daniels writes: The portrait of Lady Diana is in no way a state image, even though it will be seen in a national museum and judged in an historical context.

## Consumer spending squeezed

By Melvyn Westlake

People are spending less as rising prices and taxes cut more deeply into personal incomes. According to government figures published yesterday, consumers reduced their spending by 11 per cent during the spring and early summer, after the Budget in March.

Spending on alcohol and tobacco has dropped, and consumption of fuel and light is estimated to have been lower during the second quarter of the year than at any time since 1976. These figures bear out the trend already seen in the retail trade, where business has fallen since the beginning of the year.

In January and February, a wave of buying produced some £17,500m in the second quarter, compared with £18,100m in the previous month (valued at 1975 prices to permit a true comparison).

In spite of the latest drop, consumer spending in the first half of 1981 has actually proved more buoyant than seemed likely at the time of the Budget, mainly because of the high spending levels ahead of the Chancellor's measures.

Government economists had been fully prepared for a drop in consumer spending this year, particularly in the second half, as the rise in wages fell behind the rate of increases in prices.

With prices now set to rise faster than expected, consumer spending could be even more depressed than forecast unless people are prepared to use their savings to maintain living standards. Table, page 22

## Hunger marches planned in two Polish cities

By Our Foreign Staff

Hunger marches were threatened in two Polish cities today as the authorities revealed details of proposals to quadruple food prices.

About 1,000 women in Lodz plan a March next Thursday unless the food situation improves. The independent trade union Solidarity said in Kuno, north of Lodz, Solidarity said it would hold a hunger march this Saturday in protest at what it called chaos in the local market.

Previous attempts to increase prices have led to widespread labour unrest, mainly because previous governments failed to consult and prepare the public for what was coming and why.

This time the Government is proceeding differently. Mr Zdzislaw Krasinski, the minister in charge of the state pricing commission, said today that while the authorities were painfully aware that several Cabinet had fallen over attempts to change prices, the antiquated structure had to be changed urgently. Time was running short.

The decision would not be popular, he said, but the proposals would be submitted to public discussion and there would be consultations with the trade unions.

Mr Krasinski said that unless prices were put up by the end of the year one out of two people queuing at shops would go away empty-handed. Examples he gave of necessary price increases included a kilogram (2.2lb) of ham going up from 100 to 450 zloties, a loaf of bread from seven to 21 zloties and a kilogram of sugar from 10.50 to 40 zloties. Meanwhile, the trial of the four leaders of the dissident group known as the Committee for Independent Poland was resumed this morning after a recess of several weeks in the course of which three of the defendants were rearrested on the ground that they took advantage of their release to resume their political activities. They are charged with engaging in activity harmful to basic national interests. They deny the charge of wanting to overthrow the Communist regime by force, saying that while they want to change the Communist system their activity is conducted within the constitutional framework and they are using legal political means.

## Emergency aid for school leavers

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister in a bracing end-of-term call yesterday to Conservatives in Parliament reminded them that she never promised quick results or an easy life.

She told them that there would be no "phoney boom" and that the Government would do nothing which might lead to higher inflation. She remembered 1973, she said—the inflationary period of Mr Edward Heath's government—and she "would not wish to go that way again."

But Mrs Thatcher also emphasized the Government's concern about the rising level of unemployment, specially among school-leavers. And next Monday, when she replies in Parliament to the Opposition motion of no confidence, she is expected to announce the commitment of new funds totalling several hundred million pounds, to keep people out of the dole queues, through special employment and training schemes.

The exact cost of the employment package, which is to come back to ministers for final approval on Monday, is being kept a secret. It is an emergency programme for spending in the current financial year.

But when the Cabinet yesterday took their first look at the package of public expenditure for next year, they recognized that the Department of Employment's budget for special employment programmes, already forecasting £300m this year, will have to be increased substantially in 1982-83.

Ministers are understood to have agreed that they must move a long way by next summer towards their stated aim of ensuring that all 16 and 17-year-olds, if they leave school, will receive a guarantee of apprenticeship or vocational training, or some form of employment.

Two hundred Conservative backbench MPs and peers, depressed for the most part by the Government's performance and the economic outlook, gathered in a committee room last night in the hope of hearing something cheerful. That hope did not seem to have been realized, though afterwards there was praise for Mrs Thatcher's courage and firmness.

She began with some soothing words which she wrote in the foreword to the Conservative manifesto for the last general election. They said that her policies were "not a recipe for an easy or a perfect life" but a broad framework for recovery. The manifesto had forecast a long slog. "Too much has gone wrong in Britain for us to hope to put it all right in a year or so," it said.

Mr Edward du Cann, the backbenchers' chairman and MP for Taunton, assured the Prime Minister that she could depend on their staunchness. But he also reminded her of something of which the party is only too well aware. A week might be a long time in politics, but two years was a very short time before an election—and the party was looking forward to planning for victory.

When the meeting began, the faces of those going in seemed longer than a year ago. Perhaps it was this which Mrs Thatcher, who has been urged to rally the party, if the trumpet made an uncertain sound, she said, with a slightly uncertain quotation from the Bible, perhaps it was for Tory backbenchers as well as ministers to look at themselves, and to resolve to put the party's case across better.

which rejected his suggestion out of hand and hinted at the same time that the four joint leaders of the SDP would not agree with him either.

Success depended on an alliance of hearts and minds between local Social Democrats and Liberals. Mr Holme said. A cynical electoral deal imposed from above was hardly the way to embark on the new politics. There was no short cut, and no substitute for sensible local negotiation in determining which partner in the alliance should be the standard-bearer in each seat.

The view at Liberal headquarters was that it would be quite impossible to impose any share-out of the potential spoils, and that local autonomy could not be over-ridden.

Liberals do not accept Mr Thomas's premise that, since they are organized—most of them Conservative-held—are necessarily those which an alliance has the best chance of winning. The understanding between the national leaders of the two parties has always been that the SDP would tend to take the lead in Labour-held seats on the ground that in most cases they would have the better chance of winning.

His speech provoked a stiff reply from Mr Richard Holme, president of the Liberal Party, which rejected his suggestion out of hand and hinted at the same time that the four joint leaders of the SDP would not agree with him either.

Senior Liberals were quietly seething last night at the suggestion from a prominent Social Democrat MP, Mr Mike Thomas, that half the prospective parliamentary candidates already adopted by local Liberal associations should step down in favour of SDP members.

Mr Thomas, MP for Newcastle upon Tyne, East, pointed out that about 230 Liberal candidates had already been chosen, and added that they were almost without exception in the seats that a Social Democrat/Liberal alliance might be most likely to win at the next general election.

If they all remained in place the practical effect, even if the alliance won the election, would be that most of the alliance MPs would be Liberals. Very few would be Social Democrats.

Mr Thomas, who is a member of the SDP national steering committee, was speaking in West London. He said it was understandable if Liberals resented a new party muscling in on their ground. But they must understand that the SDP did not exist "merely to water the ground so that Liberal seedlings might grow."

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Information service, back page  
University results, page 25



# Labour explains policy for uniting Ireland

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

The immense difficulties standing in the way of creating a united Ireland are frankly recognized in the Labour Party's new statement of policy for Northern Ireland published yesterday and due to come up for approval at the party conference this year.

"We believe the attainment of Irish unity, with the introduction of socialist policies, will bring great benefits to the people of both Northern Ireland and the Republic," the document says. "It will enhance the prospects of working class unity throughout Ireland by harmonizing and integrating economic and social interests and bringing the labour and political movements together on a national basis."

"It will also encourage the Provisional IRA to cease its activities and seek, through its political arm, Sinn Féin, the support of the people through the ballot box."

Against this view, however, the Labour working party, which recently sounded out opinion in Ireland, found that a majority in the North argued that Ireland was never one country, that the predominantly Protestant north-east developed separately from the Irish nation in the rest of the country, and that, consequently, it was just as entitled to self-determination.

The document states: "This opposition to Irish unity, which has a solid Protestant working class base, has been consistently expressed in electoral support for pro-union political parties in favour of staying within the United Kingdom over the past 50 years. The local government elections held earlier this year confirmed this position. The first preference vote of the vote going to pro-union parties, even excluding the various independent pro-union candidates, was some 67 per cent."

Similarly, in their evidence to the Labour Party study group, trade unions and trades councils in the North have expressed a solid extreme caution on the part of the Labour Party coming for-

ward with proposals for unification. It could, they argued, undermine working class unity and make it more difficult for them to limit the impact of sectarianism on the shop floor; and it would be misrepresented by Unionist politicians as a policy of expansion, and be used by them to enrich their own sectarian political position.

The Labour Party respects the strongly held views of the majority community in Northern Ireland. But our proposals for progress towards a united Ireland must be seen as a contribution to a continuing democratic political process—for we do not believe that partition can be ended by threats, coercion or force.

Our aim is to help bring about the unification of Ireland by agreement and consent between the two parts of Ireland; and we agree with our trade union colleagues in the North that a prerequisite of this consent is the creation of greater unity between and within the working class in Northern Ireland.

The document says that it would be no part of the political programme of the Labour Party to force Northern Ireland out of the United Kingdom or into the Republic of Ireland. Before any constitutional change the party would seek to obtain the consent of the people of Northern Ireland.

Giving a general statement of Labour's position, the document says unity will only be achieved by a process of negotiation.

Full-length riot shields, long batons and fire-proof clothing from Britain are to be issued to Irish police for tomorrow's protest march through Dublin (Tim Jones writes from Dublin).

Scores of police and demonstrators were injured on Saturday during the attack on the British Embassy. Since then the Dublin Government has received thousands of letters from people demanding that the marchers be refused the right to demonstrate.

## Britain lags in kidney treatment, report says

By Our Medical Correspondent

A continuing disagreement among medical experts has been brought into the open with the publication today in the *British Medical Journal* of a report on health service treatment of patients dying of kidney failure. Many British doctors claim that the health service does not match other countries in providing treatment with artificial kidneys and transplant surgery.

The report, from the medical services group of the Royal College of Physicians, claims that deaths from kidney failure happen because patients are unsuitable for treatment, not because facilities are lacking. That reassurance is based on an examination by Sir Cyril Clarke, formerly president of the Royal College, and Dr George Whitfield of the records of 122 patients under the age of 50, dying of kidney failure in two health service regions.

No case was found of death caused by shortage of treatment facilities. Patients who died without treatment on an artificial kidney were judged unsuitable for dialysis because they also had other diseases, such as multiple sclerosis or cancer, or had mental disorders, or were severe diabetics.

A leading article in the same issue of the journal criticizes the report, however, saying that it looked at the wrong target.

"The main concern among renal physicians in Britain is that few patients aged over 50 enter the treatment programmes, although the results of providing dialysis and transplantation can be satisfactory in such patients," the journal says.

The Royal College's data show that in the regions studied about 17 patients were accepted for treatment for every million of the population in 1979. That figure is far too low; other countries have rates at least twice as many patients or more, and surveys suggest that 30 patients a million under the age of 50 and 15 to 20 over the age of 50 should be treated each year.

Certainly Britain compares poorly with other countries. The latest figures from the European Dialysis and Transplant Association record that Belgium, West Germany, The Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, and Switzerland all treat a higher proportion of their populations than does Britain, and the average age of the patients treated is higher.

In Britain, few specialist kidney units will consider patients over the age of 55 for treatment. In Europe and in the United States the policy is far more flexible. Even patients aged 70 and over are sometimes given dialysis.

Only 127 patients a million of the population in Britain are being kept alive by dialysis and transplantation, compared with 251 a million in Switzerland and 315 a million in the United States, the journal says.

Moreover, the United Kingdom is sliding down the league table. At the end of 1978 it was ahead of Austria and Spain, but by 1980 it had been overtaken.

The European Dialysis and Transplant Association finds it particularly disturbing that Britain is inclined to provide treatment only for patients within certain age limits.

This is marked above the age of 54. In the 55-64 age group Britain started in 1978 with 22 patients a million of the population, compared with 71 a million in West Germany, and 70 in France and Italy.

The proportion on hospital dialysis in 1980 was 22.5 a million of the population in Britain compared with 180 in Luxembourg, 145 in Israel, 133 in France, and 113 in Switzerland.

Britain does slightly better than most of those countries in providing kidney machines for people at home. Last year it was treating 37 a million, compared to 30 a million in France and Switzerland.

The rate of kidney transplantation is about average for the rest of Europe although the rate of about 30 a million in 1980 was halved as a result of the controversial *Panorama* programme on kidney death last October.

The difficulty of finding kidney donors for the 1,000 people awaiting transplant is highlighted in an article in this week's edition of the *British Medical Journal*.

A survey of three health regions by the Royal College of Physicians showed although more than 1,000 people under 50 died in hospital in those regions during 1978 and 1979, doctors could obtain only 20 kidneys for transplant.

Medicine and Science, page 12

Leading article, page 15

## Countdown to the royal wedding



Centre of attention: Lady Diana and Prince Charles with guests at yesterday's garden party.

## Everything in the rainy Palace garden is rosy

By Staff Reporters

The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer were the centre of attraction yesterday when they joined the Queen and other members of the Royal Family at a Buckingham Palace garden party to mark the International Year of Disabled People, the first such occasion held specifically for the disabled.

Tormenting rain, which began minutes after the royal party's appearance, and continued throughout the afternoon, marred the occasion for the 3,500 disabled people from throughout the country who attended the occasion, the fourth palace party given by the Queen this year.

Prince Charles and Lady Diana braved the downpour for an hour, long after other

members of the royal party had sought shelter, chatting and joking with guests. Lady Diana, wearing a red and white outfit with matching red shoes and hat, told one guest that during Monday's wedding rehearsal at St Paul's Cathedral, she had tripped over a lightning cable. "I wasn't do that on the day," she said.

Huddled under an umbrella held by an aide, she told another guest: "The rain can do what it likes this week, as long as it's fine for next Wednesday."

Prince Charles also joined the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Lady Diana at a formal ceremony yesterday to accept loyal addresses from a parliamentary deputation.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Mr

Michael Foot, the Leader of the Opposition, and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, were among the seven-member Commons deputation. Their address was delivered by Mr George Thomas, the Speaker, while Lord Halsbury of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, presented the House of Lords address.

It is traditional at important royal occasions for a number of institutions to present loyal addresses and yesterday's ceremony was the third before the royal wedding.

Also present were the Corporation of London, the Commission of Lieutenancy for the City of London, the City of Westminster, the Bank of England, the Royal Society and the Royal Academy of Arts.

In Wales extremists apparently tried to sabotage the Snowdon Mountain railway, a protest about the wedding.

Points were interfered with and bolts removed from the track at Hebron, Gwynedd. The nationalists broke into a locked store and threw steel sleepers on to the track. Maintenance men spotted the damage and it was repaired without disrupting services.

The wedding has prompted one farmer at Reedham in Norfolk to spray his sheep and goats with red, white and blue. Mr Harry Sparkes, aged 53, of Thicketon Church Road, has sprayed about 15 sheep and five goats and thinks with luck he could do his whole herd of 100 sheep by the wedding day. Gibraltar wrangle, back page

## JPs reject prisoner conspiracy claim

By Frances Gibb

A prisoner serving a 20-year life sentence for murder failed yesterday in his attempt to begin a court action against three police officers whom he accused of giving false evidence during his trial.

Paul Cleeland, aged 38, who is at Parkhurst Prison on the Isle of Wight, was applying at Stenhouse "Magistrates' Court" for summonses to be served on the three men for conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

He also named a fourth man, a lawyer, whom he alleged attempted to pervert the course of justice by withholding evidence.

Since his arrest in 1972, he has strongly protested his innocence and now intends to bring a private prosecution against those involved. But after a two-hour hearing in camera, the magistrates dismissed the application.

After the hearing Mr Horton Cleeland, the applicant's father, said after speaking to his son, that he would appeal against the decision to the High Court.

"He half expected this decision," the father said. "He is not at all worried about it. But he thought it was a scandal that the case had been heard in camera."

Paul Cleeland was convicted at a retrial in 1973 after the jury at the first trial had failed to return a verdict. His 20-year sentence was imposed by Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice.

An internal inquiry was ordered by the Chief Constable of Herfordshire into Cleeland's allegations and was carried out by a senior officer from another force. Its findings have never been published, despite persistent requests from Mr Horton Williams when she was Cleeland's MP.

## Police still on duty after reprimand

Three London police officers whose conduct was described by a judge as monstrous and whose evidence was disowned by the prosecution are still on duty, Scotland Yard confirmed yesterday (David Nicholson-Lewis writes).

An internal inquiry is under consideration against a sergeant and two constables from Vine Street police station for their role in the prosecution of Mr John Campbell, leader of the Campaign Against Racist Organized Crime, and "red light" activities from Shepherd Market, near Mayfair.

The case was being studied and any improper behaviour by officers would be referred to the complaints investigation bureau.

Mr Campbell's acquittal by a jury at Knightsbridge Crown Court last week on three charges of assault came after serious criticism by Judge Barker, who described the officers' behaviour as "unforgivable". The evidence revealed important discrepancies between the officers' version of events and that contained in a 12-minute tape recording made by a friend of Mr Campbell without their knowledge.

The court case followed an incident in December, 1979, in which three women allegedly rang the doorbell of Mr Campbell's home in Shepherd Market at about 4 am on a Sunday morning and forced their way in when he answered it. Mr Campbell, who was charged with assaulting two of them, called the police and telephoned a friend asking him to come round with a tape recorder.

Judge Barker, who described Mr Campbell as a man of excellent character, told the jury the police version omitted much of what he had said at the time of his arrest, a lapse the judge called monstrous.

Mr Campbell, who has strongly criticized policing of the area and accused officers of fraternizing with criminals, said yesterday he was considering a civil action for damages against the police but would not be making an official complaint.

The officers involved in the case were Sergeant Michael Hollingsbee, and Constables Peter T. Lallack and Paul McGrath.

The officers involved in the case were Sergeant Michael Hollingsbee, and Constables Peter T. Lallack and Paul McGrath.

## STANSTED INQUIRY WIDENED

By Our Air Correspondent

The planning inquiry into the development of Stansted as the third London airport, due to open in September, is to be widened to include consideration of a site at Maplin, on the Essex coast, and an extension of Heathrow airport.

That emerged yesterday with the "calling in" by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, of applications by the Town and Country Planning Association for Maplin and by Uttlesford District Council for Heathrow.

Planning inquiries will be held concurrently with the inquiry on Stansted. The proposal for an extension at Heathrow is strongly supported by British Airways.

## 'RADIO TIMES' DISPUTE OVER

The dispute that threatened the printing of the royal wedding issue of the *Radio Times* at the north London factory of the British Printing Corporation, whose chief executive is Mr Robert Maxwell, was settled yesterday.

The agreement with printing and other unions means that the workers at the factory will be reduced by about 100, and by a further 70 by next January.

## Red Cross fails at the Maze

From Richard Ford Belfast

The International Red Cross team left Northern Ireland for Geneva yesterday, saying they saw no hope for a settlement to the crisis at the Maze Prison, where eight men are on hunger strike.

The three-man Swiss delegation had a 90-minute meeting with Mr Michael Allison, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office with responsibility for prisons, during which they gave their opinions about prison conditions.

Mr Frank Schmidt, the leader of the delegation, said: "We cannot see any settlement of the hunger strike in the immediate future. We did initially see whether we could play in any way a useful role in the issue of the hunger strike and we fairly quickly came to the conclusion that this was not the case. It was quite quickly obvious that the two sides would not meet."

As the condition of Kieran Doherty and Eamonn Devine, who are today the 64th and 63rd day of their fast respectively, continued to worsen, the Government replied to a challenge by Mr Gerry Adams, vice-president of Sinn Féin, to publicly state the plans for the Maze if the fast ended. It said it had repeatedly stated what developments would be made once the fast had ended.

But a report that a conference of the prisoners, their families, priests, and government officials was being considered, was greeted without much enthusiasm by Republicans and the Government.

The idea appears to have been blown up out of all proportion, and the hunger strikers have made Mr Brendan McFarlane, "officer commanding" republican prisoners in the Maze, would have to be involved. The Government has refused to involve him as they say that they would be tantamount to negotiation.

He is clearly crucial to any agreement. Aged 29, from the Ardoyne, Belfast, he is a five times killer, serving five life sentences imposed in May 1976. In August, 1975 he and two others went to a public house in the Protestant Shankill Road and placed a bomb in the hall. As they fled, they opened fire with an Armalite rifle and two automatic pistols killing two men. In the explosion that followed another man and two women died, and 68 people were injured.

## IN BRIEF

### 'Coronation St' for Canada

Episodes spanning seven years of *Coronation Street* must be shown by the CBC English television network in Canada. The 728 episodes cover the series from January 1974 to January this year.

Since 1966 *Coronation Street* has been shown on 14 CBC stations. It will now reach 42 stations with a potential audience of more than 95 per cent of Canada's 16 million English-speaking people.

Director's wife fined Mrs Marjorie Stephens, aged 42, the wife of the managing director of Selfridges was fined £100 by the Epsom magistrates yesterday, after admitting the theft of a 64p bottle of hand cream from a chemist in her home village of Banstead, Surrey. She claimed she had been driven to the crime by the pressure of having an armed police guard outside her house after threats.

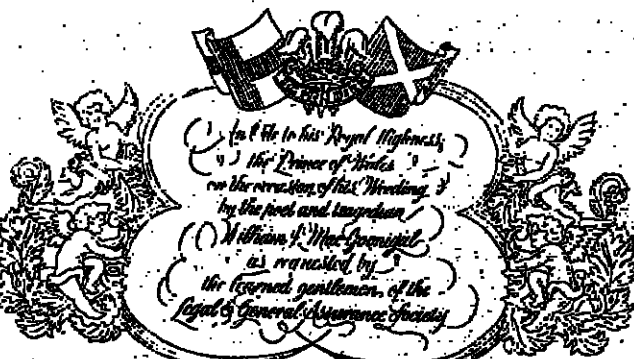
Marches banned All marches in Cleethorpes, Southorpe, Grimsby and Hull have been banned from today until August 9. The ban will prevent the National Front from marching 14 Grimsby on Saturday, when Princess Alexandra visits the town.

Ford cars recalled Ford is recalling 174,000 Cortina 1.6s and Escort XR3is to inspect and replace the engine pre-heater pipe, which has been found to be liable to damage from high temperatures.

£34m drugs ring A drugs ring that smuggled cannabis and cocaine into Britain operated chiefly in south London, Lewes Crown Court was told yesterday. A leading member of the ring, Paul Joseph Parker, aged 37, of Coast Road, Pevensey Bay, East Sussex, was jailed for six years.

Healey unopposed Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the Labour Party, will face no challenge from the left when he appears for reselection tonight at his constituency of Leeds, East.

Tournament hitch The musical drive by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, was twice brought to a halt at the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court yesterday, when limbers drawn by two of the gun teams overturned.



## A right regal send-up from Goonland

Spike Milligan, the entertainer, yesterday sent to Buckingham Palace his own version of a poem to commemorate the wedding of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana, Spencer. The poem, written on a scroll 3ft 9in long, and commissioned by the Legal and General Assurance Society, reads:

Oh! 'Twas in the year 1981  
Prince Philip was reading Page 3  
of the Sun!  
They were all sitting in  
Buckingham Palace  
Roaring with laughter at the  
Prince Philip did talk to his son  
(Who not being married  
Had not had much fun)

"Thirty years in the Palace  
you've spent  
And not paid your poor Mother  
a penny rent.  
You must get married soon  
Prince Andrew wants your  
Harry."

So he searched low and high  
And lo! found a lady called DI  
The Queen said: "I beg your  
Coronation Scepter  
She works in a Kindergarten  
Said Charles: "I fear 'tis true!  
But it's only part-time and she's  
finished by two."

So Mother: "I've decided to  
marry I!  
I've already invited Spike and  
Harry."  
Said Philip: "If Scoundrel's there,  
He'll have to hire a reinforced  
chair."

The wedding got the Royal  
Assent  
And debated in Parliament  
Said Foot: "How can we afford  
the expense?"  
Said Thatcher: "We'll cut our  
National Defence."  
Said Foot: "So, if he wants to  
marry her I  
We'll have to sell another Air  
Craft Carrier!"

For the marriage they hired St  
Paul's  
So the Dean started reparing  
the walls  
Said Philip: "Invite all the Press  
All except the *Daily Express*!"  
So started a Royal Sovereign trade  
By British craftsmen (Hongkong  
made)

There were beautiful Prince  
Charles mugs  
Even pairs of artificial Royal  
Porcelain legs.  
Getting fit for marriage Charles  
Jogged round courses  
And practised falling his  
favourite horses.  
Lady Di sent off a list of presents  
Some fish forks—a toaster—and  
a bike

A cook book—some plates—a  
ported dabbler  
And the Head of a telephone  
engineer from Australia  
Soon the ceremony was through  
All because they both said  
"I do!"

On the television the wedding  
worked a treat.  
Some said it was even better than  
the Coronation Street  
They drove through the cheering  
streets in a carriage.  
People said: "Look! There goes  
a marriage!"

Suddenly, Prince Philip went pale  
and ill  
The Dean of St Paul's had said:  
"Here's the bill!"  
Philip showed his American  
Express, and said icily:  
"I suppose this will do nicely."  
The Queen said: "Drive them to  
the Britannia Yacht."

Philip said: Be careful, it's the  
only one we've got—sails  
As the yacht pulled away—sails  
in full trim  
Philip said: "There! That's got  
rid of him!"

The poem was signed  
William J. Mac Gonnigall-Knee  
Spike Milligan (1865-1981).

To perform what promises to be a livelier rendering of that well-known theme, Sir David Willcocks, the arranger and overall musical director for the event, will have the services of large parts of the English Chamber, Philharmonia, and Covent Garden orchestras, together with the vocal power of 250 singers from the Bach Choir, and the choirs of St Paul's and the Chapel Royal at St James's Palace.

As if that were not enough to raise the cathedral roof, yet more sound will emanate from the State Trumpeters, the trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, and the huge St Paul's organ at the hands of the cathedral organist, Mr Christopher Dearley, and his assistant Mr John Scott.

Kiri Te Kanawa, the New Zealand soprano, will have her solo spot too, singing an aria and chorus from Handel's *Samson*.

To keep this vast heavenly chorus in order will require the efforts of four conductors: Sir David himself, Barry Rose, Richard Poplewell and Sir Colin Davis.

Arranging the music for such an august occasion is a far cry from one of Sir David's previous musical adventures, recording *You can't always get what you want* with Mick Jagger. Sir David, it must be said, did not sing on the recording; he conducted the backing group, which was the Bach Choir.

At any lesser event than the royal wedding, the music would be left in the hands of Mr Dearley, the resident cathedral organist. But Sir David, who has been close friends since the former was organist and choir-master at King's College, Cambridge, and the latter an undergraduate.

Sir David has been director of the Royal College of Music since 1974 and the Prince, wherever his other virtues, is

not an outstanding musician. But the two do have one thing in common: modest accomplishment on the cello. According to Sir David, his appreciation of music is good, and the choice of wedding music is largely his own.

The programme is almost entirely English, with pre-service selections from Bliss, Britten, Elgar, Tippett, Vaughan Williams, Williamson, Bush and Howells. The exception is an arrangement of Psalm 67 by William Mathias, professor of music at the University College of North Wales, Bangor, a fitting tribute to the Prince of Wales, receiving his first performance.

Despite a career which has become largely administrative, preparing the Royal College of Music for its centenary appeal in 1983, Sir David is best known as an organist and choir-master. During his tenure at King's College, he greatly enlarged the choir's repertoire and led them on more than 60 LP records. The royalties went to college funds.

Sir David, a Cornishman, was guided into music by his parents at the age of nine. After hearing a radio talk on music he found him a place as a Westminster Abbey chorister. A scholarship to Clifton College, Bristol, was followed by the organ scholarship at King's.

He was cathedral choir-master, first at Salisbury then at Worcester, where he conducted the Three Choirs Festival, before returning to King's.

That emerged yesterday with the "calling in" by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, of applications by the Town and Country Planning Association for Maplin and by Uttlesford District Council for Heathrow.

Planning inquiries will be held concurrently with the inquiry on Stansted. The proposal for an extension at Heathrow is strongly supported by British Airways.

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Old Town Hall,  
Kingsway Road,  
London SE1 4QD.  
National Giro Bank,  
Account No. 514-0013

## D'Oyly Carte singers want to accept Forte aid

By Martin Tuckerby, Music Reporter

The singers in the threatened D'Oyly Carte Opera have called on the trustees of the company to prevent its becoming "a fatal casualty in the boardroom battle at the Savoy" and to accept any unqualified offers of financial assistance.

In an open letter published in yesterday's issue of *The Stage*, the theatre paper, 60 members of the company made clear that they want the trustees to accept the money offered by Sir Charles Forte, who was involved in an unsuccessful bid to take over the Savoy Hotel group. The Savoy is the original home of D'Oyly Carte, although

the company recently had to move its offices out of the building.

The trustees have said they have never had an offer free of conditions from Sir Charles, who had spoken of a contribution of £50,000, and his efforts to raise a further £250,000 from the business community.

Now the members of the company are worried that the public appeal, which has brought in over £45,000 of projected £1m, will not raise enough funds to prevent the closure of D'Oyly Carte next February and are determined that any offer of help should be considered

## COUNCILS DEFEND STATUS

By Our Local Government Correspondent

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities is to campaign to defend local government against spending cuts.

Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the association, said yesterday that the future of local democracy was in danger. "Faced with massive cuts in its expenditure and growing public pressure on our services we are now in danger of government action to dictate our policies which would make local democracy meaningless."

The association is prepared to levy funds from its member authorities.

## Progress on pay as rail talks adjourn

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Six hours of negotiations last night failed to break the deadlock over pay for 180,000 railway workers, although the threatened industrial action has been averted for the moment.

The three unions met senior British Rail management in London to insist that an arbitration award of an 8 per cent increase from April and a further 3 per cent from next month should be met in full.

Only one of the two sides made progress during the talks and have agreed to meet again on August 3, although a settlement does not appear close.

British Rail argued that the 3 per cent must be conditional on a commitment to the introduction of new productivity measures. The unions had insisted that negotiations on producti-



## Riots and the police

# Inquiry allocates blame for St Paul's 'volcano'

By Lucy Hodges

An inquiry into the St Paul's riot in Bristol last year has blamed the disturbances on poor housing and education, unemployment, racial discrimination and tense relationships with the police.

Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, who chaired the inquiry, said yesterday the report was not called 'Slumbering Volcano' as it was not a slumbering volcano and, if anybody does anything about it, it will erupt again.

No doubt if there is another eruption the Government will send in Mr Michael Heseltine. That is rather like sending an arsonist down to the scene to find out the cause of the fire.

After the riot broke out on April 2, causing £500,000 of damage, the Government refused to set up an inquiry, so the Bristol Trades Council organized its own. The then Conservative-controlled Avon County Council and the police refused to cooperate.

One of the most important of the inquiry's 64 recommendations is that the police authority set up a liaison committee with representatives of all communities in the area. The committee should meet regularly and formally under the chairmanship of the police community relations officer.

The report says complaints against the police should be fairly investigated and the outcome of each case reported to the committee. Police officers working in St Paul's should be trained in the special problems of areas with a large ethnic minority population.

More police should be put on the Beat and there should be a clampdown on prostitution, the report says.

The inquiry received many complaints about police harassment particularly of black people. "We have neither the time nor the facilities, and indeed it was not our function, to investigate individual complaints, but the volume of these overlapped, particularly in the case of a public library, post office, public lavatories and poor quality shops. The report recommends an inquiry into the way in which the pedestrian has been disadvantaged for the benefit of the motor car."

It also says there should be close cooperation between Avon County and Bristol City Councils because their functions overlapped, particularly in planning. Mr Ron Thomas, former MP for Bristol North-West, and secretary to the inquiry, said he hoped this could be done because Avon was now controlled by Labour and the majority party on the city council.

The inquiry laid much of the blame for poor housing at the door of central government but said the city council should formulate and publish a housing programme.

It recommends that local authorities and public bodies keep ethnic records to check on the way in which black people are being treated in housing, education and social services. But it adds that this should not be done without people's consent.

The education authority should abolish the 11-plus system, recruit black people to governing bodies and black teachers to work in schools.

The report, which cost £600 to produce, says it can offer little hope for improvements in employment, but recommends that urgent consideration be given to setting up a skills resource unit for those aged 18 to 25 who are unemployed.

Slumbering Volcano? available from Mr Ron Thomas, 64 Morris Road, Bristol 7; 50p or 65p including postage and packing. Cheques to Bristol TUC.

□ Sir Ian Trevelyan, director-general of the BBC, commenting yesterday on the report of the riots, said it seemed unthinkable that the BBC should report on what was happening in British cities (Kenneth Gossing writes).

"We must assume," he said on a BBC Radio London phone-in programme, "that basically we are a decent, intelligent, mature, free democracy and if you show people what is happening the reaction will be a responsible and mature reaction."

He said it would be absurd to pretend there might not be a "copy-cat" factor. But after inquiries in Northern Ireland some time ago the overwhelming reaction of viewers was: "This is appalling—the police must be given all the help we can."

But Mr David Wilson, chairman of Liverpool Publicity Association, yesterday accused television news of being a contributor to the riots in Toxteth and other inner-city areas.

The hoodlums in Toxteth, he said, had learnt about the effectiveness of the petrol bomb from news coverage of its use in Ulster.

## Vice-chancellor wary of state intervention

By Diana Gaddes, Education Correspondent

Attempts to persuade the Government to intervene in the distribution of grants to universities could lead to an even more serious crisis and loss of autonomy for universities, Lord Hunter of Newton, vice-chancellor of Birmingham University, said yesterday.

Speaking at a degree ceremony at Aston, one of the worst-hit universities, where he was awarded an honorary doctorate in science, Lord Hunter said it was legitimate, perhaps desirable for the Government to consider the need to produce more money for higher education.

"But the suggestions that are being made by the Government should change the priorities arrived at by the University Grants Committee, however wrong those priorities may be, will create a crisis, and it will mean that universities will be given direct grant institutions," he said.

The case for a change in the priorities set for a particular university must be fought with the traditional universities, but not the newer universities, particularly the technological universities. Three other criteria should have been used: the quality and employability of graduates, the support of industry for research and the effectiveness of a course as

distinct from its cost-effectiveness.

Had those criteria been used, he did not believe that institutions such as Aston, Salford and the University of Manchester would have been so hard hit. She asked the Government to reconsider the cuts, and look again at the UGC's recommendations.

At another graduation ceremony at Leeds University yesterday, the Duchess of Kent, the Chancellor, spoke of a "deep sense of personal dismay" at the prospect of the damage that the cuts would do to the university, and expressed regret at the loss of overseas students caused by the Government's policy of "full-cost" fees for them.

Edinburgh University, which is facing a below-average 11 per cent cut in its grant over the next three years, has asked its bankers for a temporary overdraft of up to £3m to help cope with possible cash-flow difficulties.

Its annual expenditure is more than £55m, but it has only £1m left in its reserves. Like most other universities, it is filling other, the most vital academic vacancies. About 300 posts have been frozen.

Those were reasonable criteria by which to assess the traditional universities, but not the newer universities, particularly the technological universities. Three other criteria should have been used: the quality and employability of graduates, the support of industry for research and the effectiveness of a course as



Mrs Williams receiving her degree yesterday.

## NASA finds the way to easier digestion

By the Staff of "Nature"

The American National Aeronautics and Space Administration has turned its attention to appropriate technology and come up with a dramatically improved digester, a device that turns organic wastes and plant materials into burnable methane gas.

Now that we are going to see the age of the biogas rocket; this is a spin-off from NASA's efforts to recycle human waste for a possible long manned space voyage.

The methane is produced by three species of bacteria, which successively break down complex organic molecules to methane. The bacteria are sensitive to oxygen, so the system must be closed and air-free; they must grow in the right balance; and their temperature must be carefully controlled. So anything that makes it easier to grow them must be considered an advance.

The NASA scientists have made it easier by turning the digester from a simple container with a lid to something only slightly more subtle, two containers with a pump which circulates the fluid from one to the other and back again. The second container is filled with gravel, which provides a surface for bacteria to grow on.

Nasa has discovered that the relatively simple change, which the plants used to digest a load of plant matter from 90 days to 23 days. Moreover, the gravel tank contains only circulating fluid, so the main tank into which the plants are added, and waste are thrown can be disconnected to be refilled.

That leaves the bacterial community which has developed in the gravel tank untouched after the change of digester. Refilling the main tank is quicker and more reliable.

The development may be relevant to efforts in the developing countries to produce a "low-energy house" one which makes as much use as possible of solar energy and waste products to reduce its energy consumption. But it is more questionable whether the technology is applicable in the Third World.

There biogas is potentially more significant, as it would reduce the immense pressure on rapidly depleting sources of firewood for cooking and heating and free labour for more productive uses.

However, any increase in the sophistication and cost of a biogas plant (such as the introduction of a pump) would make it less useful, because it would be available to only the richest of the richer villages. Nevertheless, the apparently decreasing use of biogas plants in China, pioneers of the technique as a village technology, and their failure to make much impact in India may be due as much to the difficulty of controlling the bacterial activity as in social and economic factors.

So the NASA design may yet revive the attention of alternative technologists, who may find a way of achieving the same ends more cheaply.

Source: *Economic Botany*, vol 35: 224 (1981).

© Nature-Times News Service, 1981.

STAGE RAPE MAN GETS FOUR YEARS

A man convicted of raping a beauty queen at the stage of the City Varieties Theatre, Leeds, was sentenced at Leeds Crown Court yesterday to four years' jail.

The jury took 30 minutes to find Kevin Hazelwood, aged 36, a storeman from Leeds, guilty of raping the woman, now aged 29. He had pleaded not guilty.

## Magistrates have sentenced 220

By Marcel Berlins

More than 200 defendants have been sentenced by courts around the country for their parts in the rioting earlier this month, but there are still more than 1,000 cases pending.

Although magistrates have given priority to riot cases, the legal machinery cannot be hurried too much without denying justice to the individual.

Several hundred defendants are pleading not guilty, which means arrangements have to be made to get witnesses, many of them policemen and lawyers, for the trial. Dates also have to be set aside for hearings.

Hundreds of other defendants have been remanded in custody on bail for sentence. In many of those cases social welfare or probation reports have to be prepared.

The more serious offences arising from the riots, including most involving petrol bombing, cannot be dealt with by magistrates, and will eventually come before Crown Courts.

Magistrates have so far dealt only with relatively minor and straightforward cases in which the defendants have pleaded guilty.

More than 500 people were arrested around Manchester during the disturbances, but only about 30 have been sentenced. Manchester had nearly 300 arrests, but only about 50 defendants have been sentenced. London courts have sentenced only a handful of offenders.

Of 220 finished cases of which *The Times* has details, offences arising from looting (theft, including burglary, and handling or receiving stolen goods) account for nearly a third.

There were 50 cases of threatening behaviour and 46 of conduct likely to cause a breach of the peace. Criminal damage, having an offensive weapon, obstructing the police and assault, mainly on police officers, made up most of the remainder.

No discernible sentencing pattern emerges, although it is clear that magistrates have not hesitated to use their maximum sentencing powers of six months' imprisonment. In some cases the sentence was increased to the offender's previous record.

Altogether, 60 sentences of immediate imprisonment have been imposed, and 50 youths, aged between 16 and 19, have been sent to detention centres for up to six months. The remainder received either suspended sentences or fines, ranging from £10 to £500, or were bound over to keep the peace.

The vast majority of those sentenced have been white—in some areas riots only involved whites. A high proportion, although difficult to quantify because of lack of information, were unemployed.

The above assessment does not include cases arising from the Brixton riots in April. So far, only about a third of the 354 people arrested have been dealt with.

large quantities of drugs with high illicit sales value.

The continued growth of the heroin black market was one of the most disturbing features of 1980, Sir James says. There is apparently more addiction among the young and in the provinces.

Heroin addicts notified for the first time to the Home Office by general practitioners, increased from 64.6 per cent in 1978 to 72 per cent. The proportion under the age of 25 rose from 2 per cent to 12 per cent, and in 1979 33 per cent of those reported for the first time were from outside the capital. In 1980 it was 47 per cent.

Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for the year 1980. House of Commons Paper 409, Stationery Office, £5.50.

already being made to achieve a better understanding of and with the ethnic minority communities.

Sir James is pleased that chief officers have returned more men to the beat. He says that, if community policing is properly matched to local needs, not only will the image of the police and quality of local life improve but the community's resources will be mobilized to prevent crime.

With the appearance of conventional criminals in the drug scene and because of the widespread nature of their activities, regional crime squad officers are becoming more important. These squads recovered stolen property worth £8m last year and

enough," the proposed code of practice which the commission wants linked to a new general duty on employers to take "reasonable steps" to ensure equal job opportunities for disabled people.

The proposals were utterly ludicrous, according to Mrs Ann Clwyd, Labour European MP for South Wales and author of the European Parliament report calling for workable quotas backed by sanctions on employers throughout the EEC.

She told the annual meeting of the Royal National Institute for the Blind that it would be extremely difficult to prove that an employer was not taking "reasonable steps".

Mr Terry Smith, of Barrow Action Group, which brought the case, said he was extremely disappointed and criticized BNFI and the British Transport Docks Board for producing the evidence "at the eleventh hour".

BNFI declined to comment. The docks extension is due to be finished by next summer.

## TUC's jobs express gets up steam

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The labour movement and young people have combined yesterday to launch a campaign aimed at mobilizing the young unemployed and preventing the kind of "aimless protest" seen recently in London and Liverpool.

A national coordinating committee representing the TUC and youth groups has been established for the campaign, which will enable young people at local level to protest against unemployment and, in the words of one of the organisers, become "politically involved".

One of the priorities of the campaign will be to bring pressure on the Government to introduce radical changes in the youth opportunities programme (YOP) and to increase the £2350 a week payment to young people on the programme.

Campaign leaders want the programme to offer new types of training which would make it easier for youngsters to find full-time work.

The TUC is also planning to run a "Jobs Express" campaign train in November which will carry 400 young people around Britain and to London where a weekend of demonstrations, a lobby of Parliament

and a rock festival will be arranged.

A "festival of youth" is planned for next spring and Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said the campaign would continue until the Government could be persuaded to take steps to relieve the desperate problem of youth unemployment.

"The challenge to all society is that unless the nation rallies to the support of the young unemployed they will go on feeling more isolated and be driven into aimless protest," Mr Murray said.

He believed, had to be sensitive to the influence being wielded by fascists over young people.

Groups so far committed to the campaign include the National Union of Students, the British Youth Council, Youthaid and the National Association of Asian Youth. They said at the launch of the campaign that nearly half the country's unemployed are aged under 25 and young blacks, women and those living in inner cities are particularly hard hit.

## Mensa finds clue to intelligence in frogs

From Tony Samstag, Cambridge

Members of Mensa, the society of individuals who pride themselves on their intelligence, yesterday pondered the question of what it is that makes them so clever.

With some audacity Dr Horace Barlow, Royal Society Research Professor of Physiology at Cambridge University, set out to demolish the dictum that "intelligence is what intelligence tests test for."

His audience, all of whom had been required to pass one of those tests as a condition of membership, seemed bemused.

Mensa have convened at Queens' College, Cambridge, this week for a symposium of science and technology. A series of highly technical papers is being presented to a largely unacademic group of people, and it is hard to escape the impression that the object is to flatter that very intelligence which was under scrutiny yesterday.

Dr Barlow began with the results of certain bizarre experiments on frogs, which, he suggested, indicated that apparent intelligence among amphibians resided not in the brain but in the retina.

From there it was a short step to the human brain itself, which began to glimmer in such

seemingly mechanical feats as threading a needle or separating a jumble of geometric solids into its components.

What the brain was doing was drawing reliable conclusions from incomplete evidence, Dr Barlow said; and the more evidence required to reach the conclusions, the less intelligent the person was.

The absolute zero of intelligence (a phrase that went down well with delegates) was therefore the need for an infinite number of data in order to reach the correct conclusion.

Carefully selected symbolic or abstract evidence, then, could form the basis for an absolute scale on which to test intelligence. Dr Barlow conceded, however, that his system made no allowance for the first or intuitive stage of the deductive process.

A weakness of his audience was not slow to exploit. In any case, it was hard to tell where the physiology of perception ended and intelligence proper began. To use some of the computer jargon that has been much banded about this week, a sharp input of logical positivism might have strengthened Dr Barlow's case and improved the feedback situation.



Entertainers entertained: The Greater London Council gave a luncheon yesterday for performers in the Crystal Palace festival on the afternoon of the royal wedding. Left to right: Barry Ford, reggae star, Mr Kenneth Livingstone, council leader, Lynn Seymour, the ballerina, David Rappaport, who is in the film "Time Bandits" and Mr Charles Ross, council vice-chairman.

## Warning for the loveless

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Marriage bureaux and dating agencies raise unrealistic expectations and contribute to the loneliness and social embarrassment that claim they will solve, a report prepared by the Office of Fair Trading says.

Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, yesterday warned the bureaux that unless they adopted a formal code of practice, he would recommend legislation to stop them operating without licences.

The OFT's report, to Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, cites cases of lonely people registering with bureaux and receiving few, if any, introductions.

The OFT says that though it only traced 60 bureaux, it believes more than 100 are operating. Charges vary from £12 to £60 a year to register with agencies which do no more than circulate lists of members.

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## Thatcher has doubts about disabled quota proposals

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Manpower Service Commission proposal to shelve quota schemes for disabled workers was received lukewarmly yesterday by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

During Prime Minister's question time, she said she had read the proposals and thought they would be very controversial. She added: "A number of people would think the present arrangements are better than any proposed change."

She was responding to Mr Clement Freud, Liberal MP for Ely, who added his own doubts to the growing protests against the commission's proposals. He condemned a "not good

enough," the proposed code of practice which the commission wants linked to a new general duty on employers to take "reasonable steps" to ensure equal job opportunities for disabled people.

The proposals were utterly ludicrous, according to Mrs Ann Clwyd, Labour European MP for South Wales and author of the European Parliament report calling for workable quotas backed by sanctions on employers throughout the EEC.

She told the annual meeting of the Royal National Institute for the Blind that it would be extremely difficult to prove that an employer was not taking "reasonable steps".

BNFI declined to comment. The docks extension is due to be finished by next summer.

## Windscale case dropped

By a Staff Reporter

Anti-nuclear protesters yesterday called off their challenge to the High Court to the importing of nuclear waste at Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, for reprocessing at Windscale.

The action was abandoned after British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) gave evidence that showed it had deemed planning permission for a £5m docks extension in Barrow because of an existing use.

Judgment against the company could have halted the development and dealt a serious blow to BNFL's expanding reprocessing work for foreign energy concerns.

Mr Terry Smith, of Barrow Action Group, which brought the case, said he was extremely disappointed and criticized BNFI and the British Transport Docks Board for producing the evidence "at the eleventh hour".

BNFI declined to comment. The docks extension is due to be finished by next summer.

## ICE CAUSED FATAL AIR CRASH

By Arthur Reed, Air Correspondent

A British-registered Bristol Britannia cargo aircraft crashed near Boston airport, Massachusetts, in February last year causing the death of five of the six people on board because of the aircraft, a report by the United States National Transportation Safety Board, published yesterday, concluded.

The aircraft was operated by Redcoat Air Cargo Ltd and had taken off from Boston Logan international airport on a flight to Shannon, Ireland.

The report said that the probable cause of the crash was that the aircraft's flight capabilities were impaired by ice and snow before take-off, and by more icing once in the air.

Wind shear, downdraughts and turbulence during the climb also contributed to the accident. Failure of the flight crew to obtain an adequate weather forecast and the failure of the National Weather Service to warn the crew of severe icing conditions were also to blame.

The report concluded that the crew responded to an air traffic control low-altitude warning by raising the aircraft's nose, which caused the speed to drop too low. Ice rapidly gathered on the airframe.

Seaman back Siskin

The National Union of Seamen's executive voted yesterday, by nine votes to four, to back Mr John Siskin in the first ballot for the deputy leadership of the Labour Party.

## Select committee votes for ban on battery hen cages

By Hugh Clayton, Agriculture Correspondent

Sweeping reforms of factory farming were called for yesterday by members of the Commons Select Committee on Agriculture. After a long debate which divided across party lines, they voted to press all EEC members to ban battery cages for chickens after five years.

The battery system, the source of almost all eggs sold in Britain, is one of the main targets for reform by the animal welfare lobby. Its campaigners insist that keeping birds in tiers of small cages under restricted lighting is cruel.

Sir William Elliott, chairman of the select committee, said at Westminster: "We have seen what five birds look like in a 20 in by 18 in cage. We cannot agree with those who have written to us calling it worse than living in a pig sty. We think it quite unacceptable."

The committee is the first official body to call for a ban on battery cages since they became widespread in Britain more than 15 years ago. It called on Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to use his present term as President of the EEC council of farm ministers to persuade the Community to set a date for banning the practice.

Miss Maureen Tomison, political affairs controller of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, called the report a milestone in the history of campaigning against cruelty to animals.

But Sir Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales,

## EEC to cut cost of school milk

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

The amount of cut-price milk available to school children will be more than doubled by a new EEC subsidy, Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday.

"It could mean an extra £15m to £20m available to this country from Community funds," he said at Westminster.

The subsidy will be worth almost half the price of a pint of milk and local councils will be allowed to use it if they wish to issue free milk. It has been won after months of complex bargaining in Whitehall and Brussels and reached the level of a Cabinet subcommittee before it is settled.

Mr Walker said the Prime Minister had allowed him to take responsibility for school milk subsidies in England from the Department of Education and Science. Money for the subsidy will be paid in advance from Brussels and issued to local councils by the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce.

The subsidy will be available for plain and flavoured whole milk for all children. It is intended to reverse the sharp decline in school milk distribution since the Education Act 1980 released local councils from the obligation to issue school milk to children.

The amount of milk distributed in schools has been halved in the past two years

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## Cabinet backs controversial nuclear reactor

By Rupert Morris

The Government's commitment to developing nuclear power was reinforced yesterday in a White Paper confirming support for the controversial Pressurized Water Reactor (PWR), but emphasizing the need for flexibility because of the uncertainty of future electricity demand.

To meet an estimated need for 20 gigawatts (GW) of new generating capacity in Britain by the year 2000, the White Paper reaffirms the intention of building at least one nuclear power station per year for ten years from 1982.

Many recommendations from the Select Committee on Energy are rejected. The committee suggested in February that the Government should pay more attention to conservation and coal development, and should also examine the Canadian-designed CANDU reactor. The White Paper says the commitment to nuclear power is not excessive, but flexible, and is unlikely to lead to more than 30 per cent of electricity generating capacity being nuclear by the year 2000.

Among the few concessions to the committee are commitments to keep projections of electricity demand under review, to consult the Central Electricity Generating Board on potential savings through better investment, and to research further the relative costs of investment in energy conservation as against energy supply.

But the Government makes

its scepticism about energy conservation quite clear, stating that "the Government believes that the strongest incentive to cost-effective investment in conservation is through the economic pricing of all fuels."

The Government promises to continue consulting the CEB about the possibility of converting oil-fired capacity to dual-firing, with coal.

The White Paper endorses in general terms a larger role for coal and says modern coal-fired units are expected to last for 40 years. But it concludes: "It is prudent to establish as wide a range of options as possible."

On nuclear stations the White Paper rejects the CANDU option because it was proved uneconomical by the Thermal Nuclear Reactor Assessment in 1977, and an expensive research programme on it is unjustified.

After a report from the Chief Scientist at the Department of Energy, the Government says it is content that there is no evidence of likely uranium shortages, and hence no reason to commission a study of supplies.

Having committed itself to the PWR, the White Paper makes strenuous efforts to set minds at rest on next year's public inquiry into the PWR nuclear station to be built at Sizewell, Suffolk.

In the interests of safety, the Government is prepared to installations inspectors

## Mason masters bygone skills to save a moat

By Louis Heren

Leeds Castle is arguably the most beautiful castle in the world, and some of the credit must go to Master Edwardus Comenarius, or Mr Ted Filmer, the castle's stonemason.

His latest contribution, a 250ft long retaining wall which contains the moat at its most vulnerable point, will be officially "topped-out" tomorrow by Sir Hugh Casson, the president of the Royal Academy.

Unlike Sir Hugh, Mr Filmer is not an architect and indeed has had no formal training in masonry; but by some curious metempsychosis has inherited the skills of the Plantagenet engineers and masons who enlarged the Norman keep in the thirteenth century.

No architect or quantity surveyor was retained. As Mr Filmer said yesterday, Mr John Money, the agent, told him that "he wanted something done to stop the wall from collapsing, and that is what I did."

If the wall had collapsed, the waters of the vast moat would have drained away into the valley of the Len, and the castle built on three islands, would have lost much of its beauty.

Leeds Castle, lovingly restored by the late Lady Bailie, is now a centre of medical research, with special emphasis on Anglo-American cooperation, and is also used for high-level international conferences.

It attracts tens of thousands of tourists every year, including the physically and mentally handicapped who are especially welcome.

Mr Filmer uses Kentish ragstone quarried from the ruins of Leeds Abbey, which was built with the same stone used in the construction of the castle. That and his unusual skill ensure that repairs blend



Mr Ted Filmer, Leeds Castle stonemason, who prevented the moat from draining away.

unnoticed into the original fabric. He also cut the plain Norman arch, through which visitors pass into the Norman cellars of the castle, and put new coping on the battlements of the Gloriette. At 54, Mr Filmer can look forward to continued employment if only because birds, which love lime, peck away at the ancient mortar. It was like painting the Forth Bridge, he said.

## Jail terms should be cut by law, MPs say

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Drastic action to cut the prison population, now more than 45,000, was recommended yesterday by the House of Commons Home Affairs Select Committee.

If judges and magistrates are not persuaded soon to make sentences shorter, MPs say Parliament should reduce their limits by statute.

The Committee's report on the prison service says the necessary legislation should be prepared now, in consultation with interested parties, to avoid such a measure being introduced as a hurried response to crisis.

The "call-up" to prison by post of persons not remanded in custody is recommended as an experiment. People would be told the time and place at which to report to begin serving their sentence.

Experience in The Netherlands of such a scheme shows that about 40 per cent report immediately and another 40 to 45 per cent do so after seeking a deferment. Between 15 and 20 per cent do not report and have to be arrested.

The Dutch authorities consider that for people who report when asked a secure prison is unnecessary and they go to an open one. The policy of using open prisons less should be reversed, the MPs say.

The law should be changed to extend to England and Wales the 110-day time limit from commitment to trial in Scotland. The maximum time between court appearances should be extended to 21 days as a one or two-year experiment, provided the defendant is legally represented and gives his consent.

There should be a rapid development of shelters for drunken persons, with enough staff and skilled medical assessment. And legislation should be introduced to require the provision of National Health Service places for mentally disordered offenders on whom the courts make hospital orders. "It is intolerable that people whose offences spring from a mental disorder should be detained in prison rather than in a secure hospital," the report says. "It is just as indefensible for the National Health Service to refuse treatment to someone requiring treatment for mental illness as it would be if the NHS refused to treat an accident victim or someone suffering from a physical disease."

The MPs conclude that sentencing policy should be reshaped to give non-custodial penalties for more non-violent, low-risk offenders.

Fourth Report from the Home Affairs Committee, HC 1980-81. The Prison Service, Vol 1. Stationery Office, £3.90.

## Plowright is out of play for good

By Martin Huckerby Theatre Reporter

Only a day after it was announced that Joan Plowright would be returning to the production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* for a delayed first night next month, the National Theatre said that she had withdrawn.

Miss Plowright, the wife of Lord Olivier, appeared in previews of the play at Bath and then in the National's Lyttelton Theatre earlier this month. She dropped out just before the scheduled first night on July 10. Performances continued with the wife of the vituperative wife Martha being played by the understudy, Pamela Buchner.

The National said on Wednesday that Miss Plowright had been prevented from appearing because of a severe throat infection, adding that she and her doctor agreed she would be well enough to return on August 19. The first night was then planned for August 27.

Yesterday the theatre said she had asked to be released from the production with great reluctance. "She feels that the possibility of a recurrence of the condition once she returned is a risk the National Theatre should not have to take."

The news does not come as a surprise in the theatre world, since it is understood that Miss Plowright was less than happy in the production and had had several disagreements with Nancy Meckler, the director.

Questioned about the disagreement, the National said it was not aware of any. Miss Plowright's agents said there was nothing they could add to the National's statement.

The National may have some difficulty in finding a suitable replacement at short notice: the theatre intended, if the production was a success, to try to transfer it to the West End.



Joan Plowright: Withdrawing with great reluctance.

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## TRADERS TO QUOTE FULL PRICES

By Our Consumer Affairs Correspondent

Traders will soon have to state how much value-added tax or extra charges are due in addition to the prices they quote for goods or services.

Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, said in a written answer in the Commons yesterday that she proposed to make an order on the price marking of VAT and ancillary charges under the Prices Act, 1974.

The announcement comes four years after the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee recommended that traders be required to quote VAT inclusive prices, or the amount of any VAT payable. The order, when made, is unlikely to come into effect before the end of the year.

It will affect not only the quotation of VAT, but will also require that restaurants clearly show any compulsory service charges, and that mail order traders give as much prominence in their advertisements to charges for postage and packing as to the basic prices. Hotels and restaurants will have to quote fully inclusive prices for meals and accommodation. Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, said yesterday: "It should end the unexpected shocks when the bill arrives."

## Councillors' perks cut

From Ronald Kershaw Barnsley

Inflation has attacked the core of county councildom in South Yorkshire. The cheap meals and bar facilities for 100 county councillors and about 40 senior officers are to cost between 50 per cent and 66.6 per cent more.

On Wednesday night South Yorkshire County Council voted for the increases in its 60-seat restaurant and club, which had been subsidized to cover a loss of £20,000 a year.

There are about 1,000 county council employees in and around its headquarters in Barnsley and must receive a 17p daily sandwiches allowance because there is no subsidized canteen.

The average cost of a meal for a member or officer was £2.19. About half that was paid. Mr Tony Mallett, the chief executive, said: "It is not in the interests of the authority for members to have to go out to cafes and restaurants. It would probably cost us more because we would have to pay the bill. It is cheaper for us to lay on a restaurant and subsidize it partly. It is obviously cheaper to do your own catering if you are a large authority."

What of senior officers? Mr Mallett said: "The answer is that they are very much on duty when they are having their lunch."



## 'Washington Star' is to cease publication

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, July 23

The Washington Star, the American capital's second newspaper, is to cease publication on August 8.

This morning the newspaper appeared on the newsstands with a front-page story on the royal wedding but without a hint of its impending demise.

The Star's biggest story, that of its own imminent closure, was nowhere to be seen. That had to wait for the afternoon editions.

A meeting of senior editors heard of the decision by the owners, Time Incorporated, the publishers of the highly successful news magazine Time, at 7 am.

They had been fearing it might happen for some time. "Everyone knew what the position was—it had not been getting better and if anything, with poor summer advertising, it had been getting worse," Mr. Edwin Yoder, the editorial page editor, said.

Time had bought the newspaper three years ago for \$20m (£10.5m) from Mr. Joe Albritton, a Texas businessman who brought in a new editor, Mr. James Bellows, to live it up.

Mr. Bellows, who once ran The New York Herald Tribune, encouraged the writing of analytical articles and introduced a number of attention-grabbing pieces, such as the gossip column "Ear", which has continued under the Time management and its editor, Mr. Murray Galt.

Elsewhere Mr. Galt has cut down on the analysis in an attempt to compete with the more famous Washington Post, by presenting straightforward hard-nosed news.

The result has been a sober, straight-talking paper, well liked by readers distrustful of the liberal attitudes of the Washington Post, whose own glamour, high in the days of the Watergate film All the President's Men, took a knock recently when it was discovered that a Pulitzer prize winning article by one of its reporters was pure invention.

For all Mr. Galt and Time's efforts, the newspaper has continued to lose money. Time said it had put in \$65m on top of the \$20m it paid for the business, increased the use of new technology, adding local news sections and printing in the morning for the first time.

The Washington Star suffered, like others of its kind throughout the United States, as afternoon newspapers succumbed to radio and television coverage and advertising. It has never been able to corner the classified house advertisements and "Wanted" advertisements.

## Gandhi's party is recognized as the real Congress

From Kuldip Nayyar, Delhi, July 23

The Electoral Commission of India has recognized the Congress party led by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, as the real Indian National Congress and withdrawn recognition from the other Congress party led by Mr. Devraj Urs.

That party will not be able to call itself Congress any more. The term has an emotional appeal because it was the Congress party led by Mahatma Gandhi which won the country's independence from Britain.

The recognition by the Electoral Commission in a country where 70 per cent of voters are illiterate will give Mrs. Gandhi's Congress party at least 15 per cent of the traditional Congress vote because the voters will now be more sure in their mind that hers is the real Congress.

Also, the poll symbol of calf and cow, which the Congress party has used in many previous elections, can now be claimed by Mrs. Gandhi's Congress and it will stand her in good stead to catch more votes.

Mrs. Gandhi may gain in yet another way. Many Congressmen who have either become independent or have stayed in the other Congress since the party split in 1978 will now move over to her on the plea that they want to join the real Congress party. In fact, many have been knocking at her door for admission for a long time.

The Electoral Commission, which was hearing the case for more than three years, has said in its verdict that the other Congress will have to have another name for electoral purposes.

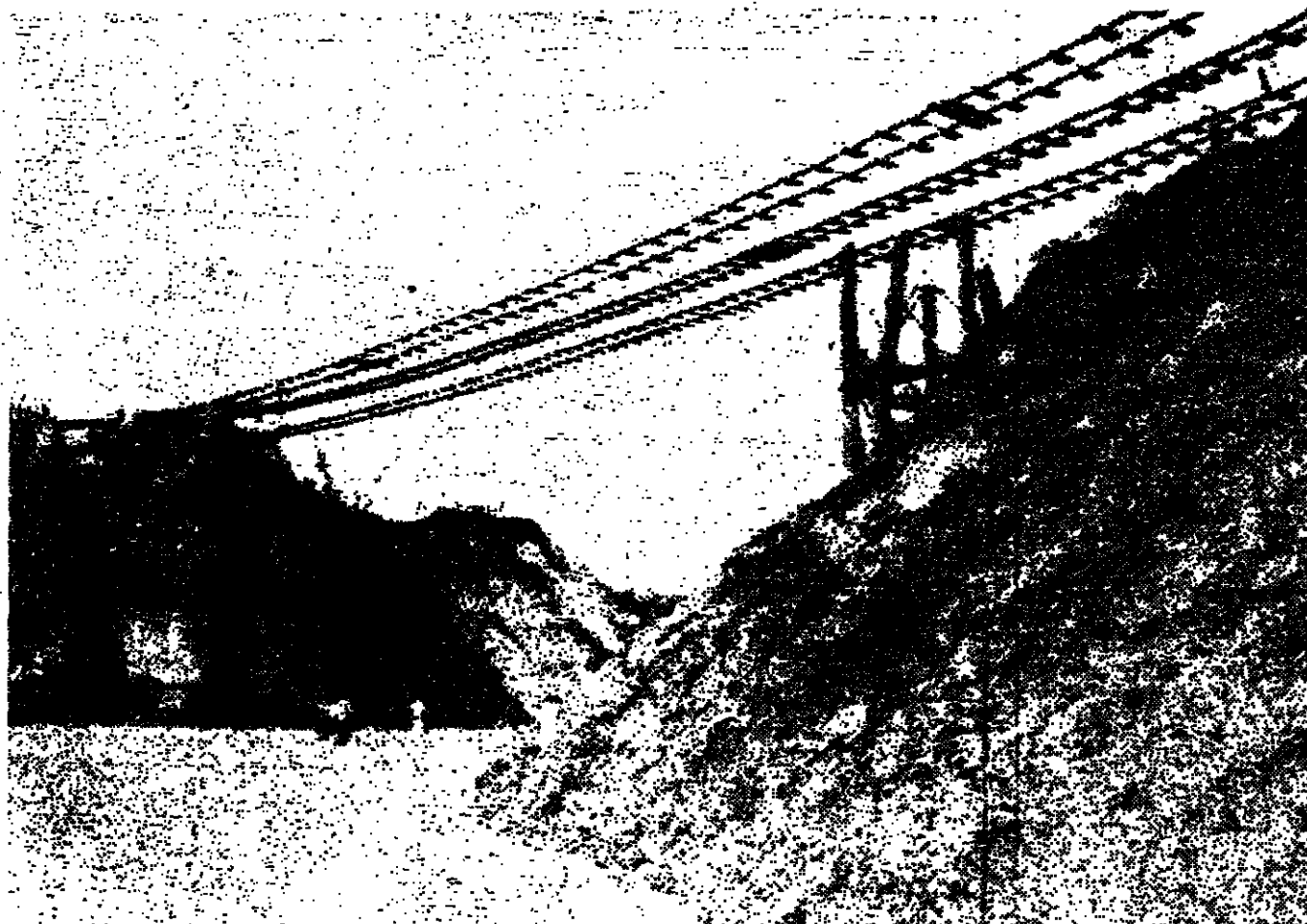
The two general secretaries of the Congress party that lost recognition, Mr. Banka Bafary Das and Mr. K. P. Umkrishnan, said that the decision was unjustified and the party would challenge it in the Supreme Court.

The decision may, however, hasten the merger of that party with the Janata Party, which has been under discussion.

A study conducted on behalf of the Press Council of India has recommended that India should have legislation on the lines of the United States Freedom of Information Act making it obligatory for the Government to supply information when an individual asks for it.

More than 100 people armed with clubs and knives attacked the office of the Tamil-language newspaper Dinakaran, today in the Tamil Nadu city of Coimbatore, the United News of India reported.

In a complaint to the police, the newspaper's management alleged that the assailants were members of the Anna Dravida Muthera Kazhagam, the ruling party in Tamil Nadu state, who objected to published reports



Service suspended: Railway tracks in Jaipur, India, are left hanging after floods swept away a bridge.

## SNOWHOLES SHELTERED CLIMBERS

Peking, July 23.—Chris Bonington, the British mountaineer, described today how he and three companions spent four consecutive days in coffin-like snowholes while climbing the 25,325ft Mount Kongur, one of the world's highest hitherto unconquered peaks.

The expedition, costing £100,000, climbed the summit, located in Xinjiang province of China less than 50 miles from the Soviet border, on July 12.

Mr. Bonington, the climbing team's leader, said that they dug holes in the snow for shelter because the wind, which Michael Ward, the expedition leader, said, was of polar ferocity, made tents useless.

On the final assault, bad weather forced the team to spend four days in individual holes which were covered in snow.

The holes were dug in pairs about 10ft apart with only occasional contact between the two pairs until the weather cleared.

Mr. Bonington, who led the successful 1975 expedition on to the south-west face of Mount Everest, said the Mount Kongur climb was "one of the most fulfilling climbs that I have done".—Reuters.

## Workers to share profits under Peking's reforms

From David Bonavia, Hongkong, July 23

The Chinese leadership is pushing through reform measures which will decentralize the nation's main industries and remove Communist Party committees from everyday intervention in factory management.

The reform plan is based on the recent success of liberal reforms in agriculture. Senior party officials believe industry and commerce have lagged behind in the search for greater productivity through direct incentives for the workers.

Repudiating an important tenet of Maoism, the party now considers that the unskilled clerks, accountants and managers are all to be regarded as "workers" with equal rights to take part in democratic decisions about the way factories should be run.

The reforms—introduced this week in a new set of provisional regulations—are believed to be based on Yugoslav methods of worker-management consultation.

This decentralization of industrial management, with bonuses and other benefits for the workers and staff of the more successful enterprises, is bolstered by reforms in the tax

system. Up to now factories have had to turn their profits over to the state.

Now the factories are to keep their profits, except for a profits tax to be paid to the state at a fixed rate. If properly administered through bonus schemes, this system should encourage the entire workforce to work for increased profits.

"In emphasizing party leadership, we do not want every matter to be decided by the party committee or its secretary. Things that should be looked after by the factory manager should be discussed, examined and decided by a congress of staff and workers", the official People's Daily said.

The paper continued: "If everything is ruled on by the party committee, this will not strengthen the party's leadership."

The factory manager must be allowed to look after matters of daily administration independently and autonomously, as well as having the power to conduct management of production and technical activity. The party committee should not have to be consulted on every single matter.

## SINATRA ON £1m TRIP TO SUN CITY

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, July 23

Frank Sinatra arrived tonight in South Africa to the sort of reception reserved in most countries for visiting royalty.

South Africans may not see much on their television screens of next week's royal wedding because of a ban by Equity and the Musicians' Union on their members appearing before South African audiences.

Mr. Sinatra, however, for a considerable fee, is prepared to ignore Equity bans and the possibility of being black-listed in a campaign being mounted through the United Nations to dissuade entertainers and actors from visiting South Africa.

He will display his talents at Sun City, the Las Vegas-type entertainment centre that has been built in the Bophuthatswana Bantustan, two hours' drive from Johannesburg and Pretoria.

The fee is said to be £1.8m (more than £1m). Mr. Sinatra flew from New York to Johannesburg on board a South African Airways jumbo. South Africans will be paying from £50 a seat to watch the Sinatra show at Sun City.

## IN BRIEF

### Argentine union leader held

Buenos Aires.—Senior Saul Ubaldini, the secretary-general of the General Confederation of Labour trade union, has been arrested at his offices here. He is the sixth leader of the union to have been arrested (Andrew McLeod writes).

A strike call by the labour union was virtually ignored throughout the country on Wednesday—only a few factories in the Buenos Aires area were affected. Public transport was not disrupted.

### Amnesty sentences

Public appeals and protests to the Guatemalan Government to protect clergy and church workers after the recent murder of an Italian priest were urged by Amnesty International yesterday (our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

Marco Maruzzo, aged 42, machine-gunned on July 1 in Quirigua, Isabel Department, was the eighth priest killed or abducted in 15 months. Other church workers have also been killed after helping peasants, Indians and slum dwellers.

### Lisbon terrorism

Lisbon.—The Popular Force of April 25, a leftist urban terrorist group, has claimed responsibility for wounding Senhor Pizarra de Oliveira, a Portuguese industrialist, and his chauffeur in a machine-gun attack near here. The guerrillas said the attack was made to force Senhor Oliveira's company, Standard Electrica, to reinstate dismissed workers.

### Air chief dismissed

Dacca.—Air Vice Marshal Saifuddin, the Bangladesh Air Force chief, has been relieved of his command and replaced by Air Commodore Sultan Mahmud, the Defence Ministry announced. No reason was given for the dismissal. Earlier the Government announced that three senior army officers had been compulsorily retired.

### Losing her charm

Lisbon.—Rolande Congalvert, aged 50, who has been convicted of forcing her three daughters, then aged between 11 and 14, into prostitution, said she did so because her own charms were no longer adequate to attract her own paying male friends.

### Argentine query

Moscow.—Argentine diplomats in Moscow are seeking confirmation that an Argentine cargo aircraft, with up to six people on board, collided with a Soviet aircraft and crashed over the weekend in Armenia. Tass issued a cryptic report on the crash on Wednesday.

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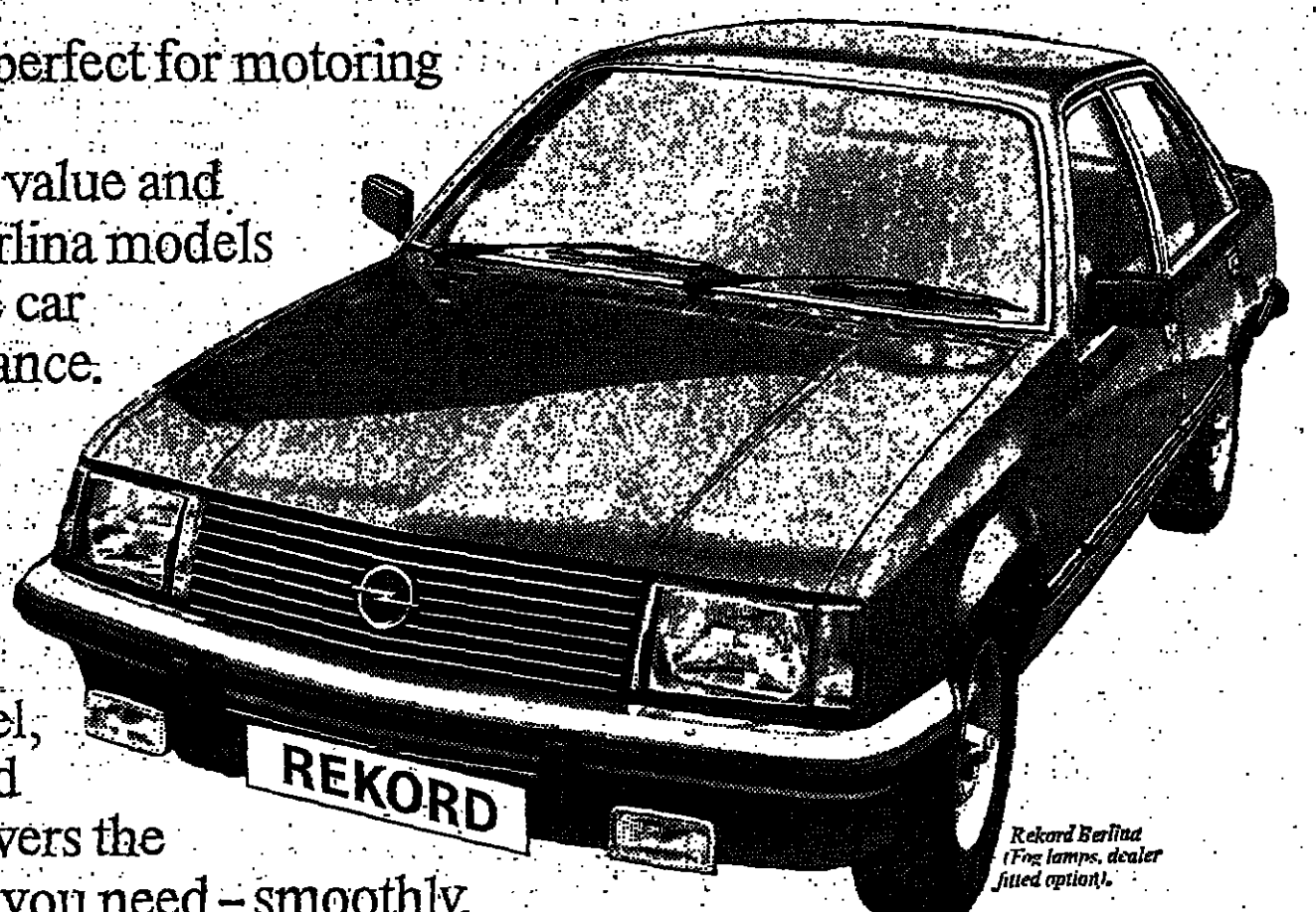
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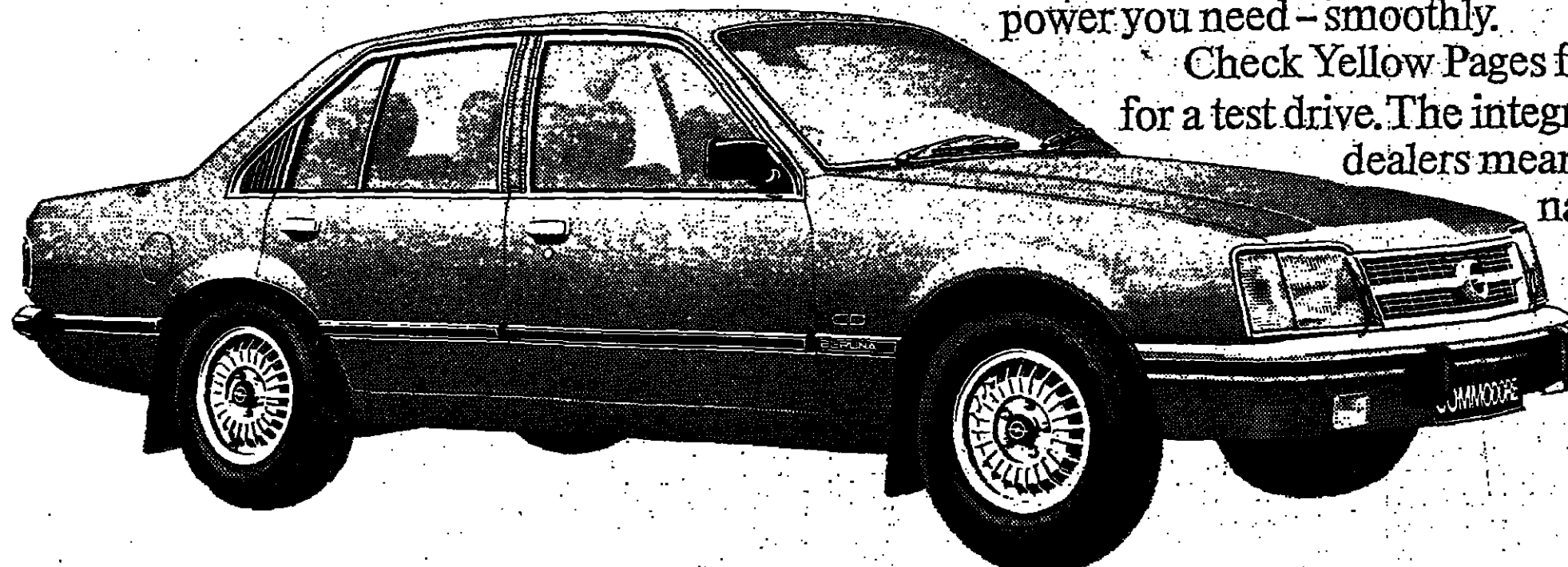
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# Israel keeps up raids as peace talks intensify

From Tewfik Mishiawi, Beirut, July 23

Israel resumed its air strikes on Palestinian targets in southern Lebanon today as diplomatic efforts intensified to achieve a ceasefire in the region.

Palestinian sources said six Israeli fighter jets had strafed the Hasbaya area at the foot of Mt. Hermon, and the Rashidya camp near the port city of Tyre. The extent of casualties was not immediately known.

Israeli border troops used long-range artillery against Palestinian positions in Nabatiya and Jarmak—targets of previous Israeli air raids and artillery shelling.

The ground fighting today was at a smaller scale than in the past two weeks of renewed hostilities. Although Palestinians fired rockets into northern Israeli towns, no casualties were reported.

In Beirut, the Government said 12 people were killed, and 14 injured, during yesterday's intensive air raids on the Lebanese coastal areas between Sidon and Tyre.

However, Lebanese papers today put the casualties at 25 killed and more than 40 wounded. They also published pictures of the damage caused, especially in the oil refinery installations at Zahran, just south of Sidon. Israeli denied that any rockets had been fired at the refinery.

The refinery was shut down last week because of the raids, causing an acute petrol shortage.

It was reported in Sidon that a makeshift bridge had been reconstructed at the Qasbiya River after a similar bridge was destroyed yesterday. The swift rebuilding of the bridge underlines the importance that the Palestinians place on the main coastal road linking the Tyre enclave with Sidon and other urban centres.

Last week the Israeli Air Force destroyed about 10 bridges in southern Lebanon in a move to neutralize the military capability of guerrillas in the region.

Mr Philip Habib, America's Middle East envoy, held talks today in Saudi Arabia on the possibility of arranging a ceasefire in Lebanon. Mr Habib had already visited Beirut and stopped briefly in Beirut, where

he met President Sarkis and Mr Chafik al-Wazzan, the Lebanese Prime Minister. He was due to return to Israel either tonight or tomorrow for additional negotiations.

Meanwhile the Arab League council was meeting in Tunis today to decide on joint Arab action to deal with the latest escalation of violence in Lebanon. The meeting was called by Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

The Lebanese delegation is being led by Mr Joseph Sif, the Defence Minister, who said that Lebanon would demand a "collective Arab strategy" to deal with the Israeli attacks.

What has been happening in Lebanon is the responsibility of all the Arabs, and it's unfair for Lebanon to shoulder this responsibility alone," he said.

Lebanese sources said that they did not expect the council to produce any dramatic solution, and added that Lebanon would like to see the Palestinians restraining their military operations against Israel from Lebanese territory.

Lebanon will be relying on Saudi Arabia to achieve a peaceful settlement to the six-year fighting. An Arab League committee on Lebanon is due to meet on Saturday to resume the peace-making efforts.

The Arab League yesterday decided on another six-month mandate for the all-Syrian Arab deterrent force in Lebanon, and agreed to continue the financing of the force.

Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, summoned the Israeli Ambassador to express the Government's deep concern at the continuing loss of life in the Middle East and to urge the Israeli Government to respond positively to the efforts to achieve a ceasefire (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

The Foreign Secretary also received a delegation from eight Arab countries, led by the Lebanese Ambassador, who sought British and European help in supporting the American negotiations for a ceasefire.

It is understood that Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Ambassador, defended his Government's strong action in attacking Palestinian bases.

## Thorn suggests separate interest zone for Europe

From Ian Murray, Brussels, July 23

The idea of creating a European interest rate was put forward today by Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, as a possible way of combating the harmful effects in Europe of high American interest rates.

But, he said, British entry into the European Monetary System (EMS) was almost a precondition of any such scheme. "How can we take this kind of action if we don't have all members inside the EMS?" he asked.

Mr Thorn was reporting back on proceedings at the Ottawa summit, during which he said the European countries had agreed that they were expecting results quickly. If high interest rates were maintained for too long, he said, they would be damaging not only to

Europe but also to the United States.

Therefore if the high interest rate policy did not bear fruit very quickly European leaders would be looking for another way of meeting with President Reagan to try to change the situation. There was a tendency, he said, to use too much monetarism and too many mechanisms to control money supply.

While he did not pretend that creating a European interest zone would help to resolve the problem, he believed it was worth trying to achieve an attitude to what was happening.

It was important to show that Europe was doing something. "We must try to persuade our American friends to step before it causes too much harm," he said.

## West Indian joins Supreme Court in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, July 23

Professor Telford Georges, a West Indian law professor who has been in Zimbabwe since December, has been appointed the country's first black Supreme Court judge.

He will take up the appointment at the beginning of next month, joining Mr Justice Fieldsend, the Chief Justice, and two other white judges on the Supreme Court bench.

Born in Dominica, Professor Georges, aged 57, has served as a judge in Trinidad and Tobago and in Tanzania, where he was Chief Justice from 1965 to 1971. He came to Zimbabwe to advise the Government on the formulation of the Customary Law Bill, passed earlier this year, which incorporates aspects of traditional tribal law in judicial legislation.

Mr Simbi Muboko, the Justice Minister said that Professor Georges had been recommended by the Attorney-General, Mr M. M. Muboko, and had been seen here through the Commonwealth's legal division. Asked if there had not been any black Zimbabweans who were suitable for the post, Mr Muboko said: "We have not been able to get anyone locally but we feel if we can find a black man from abroad we should make full use of his services."

The appointment illustrates one of the chief difficulties faced by the Government in its endeavours to promote Africanization. While it seems an urgent need to put blacks into positions to replace the skilled whites leaving the country, there is a deficiency of blacks with the necessary skills or qualifications.

This is largely because of conditions which prevailed under previous administrations, but the Government believes that the private sector, particu-

larly commerce and industry, is responsible for creating a basis on which to develop the country.

Africanization is most advanced in the Civil Service. Of 7,000 whites holding officer positions at independence last year, about 1,000 have opted to continue their pensions and leave the service or have been obliged to take early retirement. Virtually all have been replaced by blacks.

Among the reasons for the high rate of resignations is the concern of whites that they will be replaced by blacks. Senior vacancies are being filled by blacks whom they say lack the relevant experience. Some whites, however, are leaving because they are able to command higher salaries in the private sector.

Mr Ibbo Mandazara, director of the National Manpower Survey, says there is a tendency among whites in both sectors to conceal the existence of vacancies. If there is a prospect that they will be filled by blacks, they will leave the service or have been obliged to take early retirement. Virtually all have been replaced by blacks.

Government officials cite the apprenticeship figures as an example of the problem. Of the apprentices selected in the aircraft and electrical industries were whites, who comprised less than 4 per cent of the population.

Mr Willie Musarurwa, the editor of the *Sunday Mail*, said recently that the situation held the seeds of conflict between black political power and white economic power. Political power was bound to win such a conflict, but in the process the country would suffer.



## Reactions to the Ottawa conference

### French see summit as David and Goliath battle

From Our Correspondent, Paris, July 23

One thing at least has not changed in France since the summit took place: the reaction to what might be called a "gallocentric" view of the world.

This was clear after the Ottawa summit conference, which tends to be represented here as a single combat between the French David and the American Goliath with the other five heads of government playing the part of a Greek chorus.

According to the political sympathies of the paper, however, for leaders to put across their views about such things as high American interest rates in a way which dry diplomatic cables cannot.

However, the paper believes that little was achieved. "The Americans climbed the summit primed more for public relations than for negotiation. They did extraordinarily well in getting their views across, but the impression the allies took away was of ideological rigidity clothed in presidential charm."

President Mitterrand himself has expressed satisfaction both with the summit and with President Reagan. There was not one word in the final communiqué, he said, which marked a setback in terms of French priorities, and on most points progress had been made.

The problem of American interest rates had been raised, although the Americans were opposed to doing so at the start; and unemployment had been given the same priority as inflation, the President told the Cabinet today.

France had also been able to obtain acceptance for part of its standpoint on East-West trade, and he had rejected flatly an American request that the countries of Western Europe reduce their dependence on Soviet energy supplies, especially natural gas. He was especially satisfied with the solidarity displayed between the European countries, and the strong identity of view between France and West Germany.

In general, all press comment agrees in finding the results of the summit very meagre. The independent conservative newspaper *Le Figaro* writes bluntly: "The Americans have won."

The *Canard Enchaîné*, a left-wing daily, hardly regards as a French victory the fact that unemployment was given the same priority as inflation, since President Reagan did not agree to change his policy by any means. But the independent Socialist *Le Matin* considers that for the seven to have agreed this was so amounted to a "little revolution".

The economic daily *Les Echos* emphasizes that American unwillingness to budge an inch might be substituted for the record of the previous government as an alibi for unpopular economic measures in

the autumn. *Le Monde* writes in a disillusioned way about a "summit without a conclusion" but adds that Mitterrand's firmness on the need to restore the balance of forces in Europe seems to have put a stop to misgivings about the coming to power of the Left in France.

In Washington, *The New York Times* in a leading article welcomes the fact that there will be more summits to follow Ottawa (Nicholas Hirst writes).

Face to face contact is important, the paper believes, for leaders to put across their views about such things as high American interest rates in a way which dry diplomatic cables cannot.

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## Murder and executions precede poll in Iran

From Our Correspondent, Tehran, July 23

Iranian President Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, a cousin of the assassinated strongman Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti, was murdered by several armed men today, the last day of the violent campaign for the presidential election and parliamentary by-elections.

Hojatollah Mobieddin Fazel Harani, another parliamentary candidate, narrowly escaped an assassination attempt in the southern town of Eghlid, Tehran radio said. Three people were wounded in a flurry of some 100 bullets.

The presidential election appears to be a foregone conclusion as the three opponents of Mr Muhammad Ali Rajai, the Prime Minister, have called for Iranians to vote for him.

Tehran radio said that Hojatollah Beheshti was killed when he opened the door of his home in Isfahan to men saying they had a letter for him. They opened fire, hitting him in the head. He died later in hospital.

Assadollah Lajevardi, the Tehran revolutionary prosecutor, known for his role in the series of executions, yesterday gave a warning against disturbances on election day.

"We warn all those who will disrupt the vote, even if they are only quarrelling that they will be declared the corrupt of the earth and punished as severely as possible," he said in a broadcast.

Nine members of the People's Mujahadeen, a Marxist opposition movement, were executed last night in the prison in Tehran after being convicted of waging "war against God".

Tehran radio said today they had been accused of being engaged in armed struggle against the Islamic Republic.

Fifteen other dissidents from the Mujahadeen, the Communist Peykari movement and other left-wing groups had been executed earlier yesterday.

Iranian authorities have executed 220 dissidents since the clashes on June 20 over the planned dismissal of President Bani-Sadr, which was carried out a few days later.

Hojatollah Beheshti said in an interview with the *Islamic Republic* newspaper on Tuesday that all enemies of the revolution should be judged as "the corrupt of the earth" and that those complaining about the executions "did not know the size of the plot" against the Government—AFP.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy, Mr Terry Waite, was waiting for news whether he would be able to fly to Iran in an attempt to free Mr Andrew Pyke, a British businessman, from jail.

## Germans invent the wonder rifle

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

A new West German rifle could make other Nato small arms obsolete within three years, according to *Jane's Infantry Weapons 1981-82* which is published today.

The editor, Colonel John Weeks, says that the development of the rifle is most significant since the first assault rifles appeared on the market more than 100 years ago.

The rifle is the G11 which uses a caseless cartridge. It has been developed by the West German arms company Heckler and Koch, whose existing sub-machine gun was used by members of the Special Air Service during their raid on the Iranian embassy in London last year.

Manufacturers have been trying for some time to perfect a weapon firing caseless ammunition because it is lighter to carry, cheaper to make and simpler to use. But although it is fired from some tank guns, the technology has always eluded the makers of small arms.

Now Heckler and Koch claim to have beaten the problems to such an extent that West German troops should start in 1984.

"After describing the G11 as a dramatic 'innovation' the editor of *Jane's* continues: 'The rifle is not just another good idea, an improvement on present designs or a modification to a known system. It is radical and quite different.'

It follows no previous design, concept and work by an entirely novel method. It is without doubt the most important alteration to small arms since the first breech loader was made."

But if the G11 lives up to its promise it could be embarrassing for Nato armies which have just agreed to standardize their small arms and ammunition around a 5.56mm Belgian bullet, chosen after lengthy trials and exhaustive tests.

Colonel Weeks made clear last night that a caseless round offered the kind of advantages that could not be ignored by NATO. But he said it could not be fired from existing rifles made for conventional ammunition.

He also accuses the Russians of having issued their troops with dum-dum bullets which with their hollow points, then tumble uncontrollably, inflicting a horrific wound.

He makes his accusation in respect of the new Soviet 5.45mm rifle.

*Jane's Infantry Weapons 1981-2*, *Jane's Yearbooks*, £45.

## POLISARIO TURN TO THE ELYSEE

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, July 23

The Polisario would like France to mediate on its behalf with King Hassan II of Morocco. Mr Muhammad Saïed Ould Saleck, the Information Minister of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (Polisario), told a press conference in Paris.

"We are ready to meet Moroccan leaders in France under the auspices of the French Government," he said. "We ask France, along with all other countries and especially the members of the Security Council, to work for the restoration of the Saharawi people of their legitimate rights."

He added that France, which maintained relations both with Morocco and the Polisario, could help to organize contacts. The minister did not give any indication as to whether he would have talks with members of the French Government.

"We welcome the change which has taken place in France," he went on, "but this Government must just taken official notice of the Polisario as a legitimate entity."

The relations between the Polisario and the French Socialist Party.

Mr Ould Saleck said it was necessary to bring Morocco to reason, for King Hassan had refused both the letter and the spirit of the decisions of the Organization of African Unity summit in Nairobi last month when he had agreed to a "referendum of confirmation" of the OAU decision to recognize the Polisario, including the withdrawal of the Moroccan forces and administration from the Western Sahara.

## Tainted Spanish oil may be harming unborn babies

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, July 23

The discovery of two cases of toxic pneumonia in newborn children led the Spanish authorities here to suspect that the toxins in tainted cooking oil may be transmitted to children still in the womb, it was learnt here today.

The public health authorities have set up a study commission to determine if the poisonous substances, which have already claimed 77 lives and have made thousands more ill, can be transmitted via the placenta to an infant in the womb.

Although the two cases involving babies less than one month old were described as "benign" and of doubtful origin, doctors proposed investigation because there is evidence that the toxic substances contained in denatured rapeseed oil, widely sold in Spain for cooking purposes, is a violation of health regulations can be transmitted to babies

through their mothers' milk. The study commission will review the cases of all pregnant women treated for the illness at four Madrid hospitals and will examine the children they bear in order to determine not only the possibility of transmission but also whether the possible effect on unborn children.

The wave of poisonings which was at first thought to be an epidemic of atypical pneumonia began over 12 weeks ago in the Madrid area and spread through much of northern Spain.

It was eventually traced to the illegal sale of cooking oil which contained inedible denatured rapeseed oil. There are still more than 1,300 people being treated in Spanish hospitals for the effects of the poisonings. Several dozen arrests have so far been made.

## FIGHT TO CUT EEC BUDGET

From Peter Norman, Brussels, July 23

Britain and West Germany were today forming a united front to cut back the European Commission's plans for a sharp increase in spending under the 1982 EEC budget.

In what has become a time-honoured Community ritual, the EEC Commission puts forward spending proposals that it knows will be too high for the member states to swallow and these spend a full day and most of a night haggling away at the Commission's proposals.

This year, the Commission has proposed a 16 per cent rise in spending to 13,381m ECU (European Currency Unit £1,300m).

The proposals envisage a lower than average increase in spending on agriculture of 12.8 per cent to 13,933m ECU in the hope of increasing substantially the allocations to the regional and social funds.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the EEC Budget Commissioner, today appealed to the ministers not to make an arbitrary attack on the Commission's proposals.

Both Britain and West Germany challenged the Commission's farm spending targets arguing that although these were obligatory expenditures they could be subjected to tighter estimates.

Where Bonn and London differed was over the non-obligatory expenditures.

## Striving for peace at home and abroad

### Herr Brandt's dual mission

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, July 23

At an age when he could sit back and savor his prestige as an international statesman, Herr Willy Brandt has returned as a combatant to the centre of the political arena.

At 67 the charismatic leader who brought social democracy to power in West Germany, the former chancellor, founding father of détente—the move to improve East-West relations—and Nobel Peace Prize winner, might have considered his life's work over. But, with a zest which has astonished his party colleagues, he has embarked on a sequel.

Herr Brandt, now chairman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), has set himself a dual mission: To prevent a missile race in Europe and save what can be saved of détente, and to win back the "pacifist" youth and weld his trouble-torn party together to face big changes—including a possible fall from power.

Herr Brandt is convinced that Nato plans to deploy medium-range cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe will not, as intended, restore the nuclear balance upset by the Soviet SS20s, but be the start of another arms race.

His aim therefore is to get what he calls das *Teufelszeug*—these diabolical things—out of Europe. The new proposal, he says, is to withdraw the missiles to the extent that Nato does not specify what they should be deployed to correspond to their missiles. He calls this his "zero solution".

As the Western leader whom the Russians most respect and trust, and unfettered by Government responsibility, he was able to argue his case and the West's case cogently in Moscow and to sound out the Soviet views. He found interest in the "zero solution" thinks he has detected some shifts in the Soviet position which, although not significant in themselves, were signs they wanted to negotiate.

In interviews and a press briefing after his Moscow talks the results were somewhat portrayed as more important than they really were. This coincided with reports, seemingly inspired by Herr Brandt, that he was considering replacing Herr Helmut Schmidt as Chancellor.

A stiff government statement brought a hurt, angry reaction from Herr Brandt and for a day or two it looked as if there was a deep rift between him and the Chancellor. The misunderstanding, however, has since been cleared up and Herr Schmidt has since praised Herr Brandt's trip as very useful. But some of it has nevertheless stuck.

Certainly Herr Brandt has more sympathy for the anti-missile movement than Herr Schmidt. As party leader he has different goals and can speak more openly than a head of government. They are also different characters, but Herr Brandt firmly supports the Chancellor's line that détente must be based on a balance of power and he backs the Nato produce-and-negotiate decision of 1979 because he feels it is the only way of getting the missiles reduced. Claims that Herr Brandt is going neutralist or pacifist are nonsense.

His aides believe that the opposition attacks are prompted mainly by fear that his tactics will succeed. For his missile strategy is closely bound up with the second part of his mission: to coax the growing number of anti-missile protesters and critical young people back into the party.

It is not easy and his efforts are resented by some right-wing party members. After the 1968 student revolt he succeeded in drawing many young protesters into the SPD. He realizes that this time the job is more difficult.

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# An open letter to President Reagan

In the six months since the foundation of your Administration, the United States has announced major changes in her foreign policy priorities, based on what is described as 'the containment of communism'. We view with concern the Administration's declarations about the future of relationships between the US and her Western allies, on the one hand, and the Soviet Union on the other.

We are concerned that the United States' new assertiveness is directed mainly towards territories and countries over which neither the USSR nor the USA has any right to interfere. The peoples most affected by this new US foreign policy are neither those of the United States nor the Soviet Union; instead the developing nations of the Third World have become the focal point of this confrontation.

In particular, we deplore US policies towards Central and South America, southern Africa and the Middle East which run directly counter to the rights of the peoples of these regions

to seek changes in social, political and economic conditions when they deem them to be exploitative and oppressive. We condemn terrorism, but recognise the right of liberation movements to take up arms, where political struggle has failed to end economic and social oppression.

US plans for direct or covert action to destabilise the governments of independent states have been widely and convincingly reported. We deplore any and all such plans, and recognise the right of sovereign states to pursue their own foreign and economic policies, in accordance with international law, whether or not these run counter to US policies.

We totally reject the arming of other countries except for purposes of self defence, and condemn the supply of US weapons and equipment which have been, or may in the future be used against civilian populations, or in offensive actions against other states.

## We call on the United States Government:

1. To respect the right of independent states to non-interference in their internal affairs;
2. To recognise the right of oppressed peoples to work wherever possible by non-violent means, for the establishment of independent, sovereign governments, respectful of full human rights in their territories;
3. To respect the resolutions of the United Nations relating to the liberation struggles in Namibia, South Africa, Western Sahara and Palestine, and not to assist or aid regimes directly opposed to the rights of these peoples;
4. To recognise the justice of the campaign for a new world

economic order, and to assist fully in the economic and social development of the Third World, including the transfer of technology;

5. To adopt, jointly with the Soviet Union, a programme for the full withdrawal of all military bases on foreign soil, and the ending of any military presence in foreign territorial waters, and urgently to start talks aimed at disarmament, commencing with nuclear weapons;
6. To end economic and military support of regimes which fail to respect the United Nations Charter, and which pursue policies in violation of the basic human rights of their citizens.

J.L. ABU-HADAD  
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President, National  
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DAVID PEGGY ASHCROFT  
Actress

LORD AVEBURY  
Deputy Director, Centre  
for International  
Briefing

PETER AYLETT, MBE  
Deputy Director, Centre  
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Briefing

MARGARET BAIN  
Scottish National Party

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VIV BINGHAM  
President Elect, The  
Liberal Party

PAUL BOATENG  
Member of the Greater  
London Council

JOAN BODINGTON  
STEPHEN BODINGTON

EDWARD BOND  
Playwright

RYAN ALBERT BOOTH  
Member of Parliament

G.M. BOOTH

ROLAND BOYES  
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Member of the  
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ALAN BRIEN  
Film critic, Sunday  
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LORD BROCKWAY  
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ALEXANDER EADIE  
Member of Parliament  
for Midlothian

KEN EASTHAM  
Member of Parliament  
for Manchester,  
Blackley

JACOB ECCLESTONE  
Dep Gen Sec National  
Union of Journalists

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Co-Director, Centre for  
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Gen Sec National Union  
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PAUL HANNON  
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Berkshire County  
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PETER HARDY  
Member of Parliament  
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JAMES PITT







Secretary would consider the interesting suggestion.

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**Parliament today**  
Commons (9.30): Debate on the Brandt report. Lords (11): Finance Bill, all stages.



## Part five of Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy by Anne Edwards

# The years without Tolstoy

In the few years left to her after Tolstoy's death Sonya saw the Russia he had portrayed swept away by war and revolution. Still she fought to provide for her family and to retain possession of their home, only for her daughter Sasha to become Soviet commissar of Yasnaya Polyana.

Tolstoy's death in 1910 touched off student demonstrations. Young men and women thronged to the Nevsky Prospect in St. Petersburg waving red and black flags, shouting against the Orthodox Church in the mistaken belief that Tolstoy had been buried without ritual because of his excommunication. Police and Cossacks had to be called in to disperse the crowds with sabres and threats of gunfire. In Odessa students and police, during a disorder precipitated by Tolstoy's burial, engaged in a gun battle. His widow Sonya knew nothing of these events. She had retreated to her room at Yasnaya Polyana and the newspapers were kept from her so that she would not read the sensational stories which had been written about Tolstoy's "desertion" of her and his death and burial.

When her sons Andrei and Ilya arrived, there were painful conversations about their bleak financial prospects and their fears for the future. They had received nothing on their father's death, and Sonya was no longer able to help them. Tolstoy's will had placed their sister Sasha and Vladimir Chertkov in control of all his literary rights and unpublished works, and it instructed Sasha to purchase Yasnaya Polyana from her mother and to transfer it to the peasants.

But this would take a year or more to execute, and until then Sonya would receive no money from her husband's estate. She had only the meagre remains of her dowry. Tolstoy had never owned any valuable antiques or art works, nor had he ever given Sonya expensive jewelry. His library and private papers were in Chertkov's hands, and by the conditions of the will her publishing company no longer had any rights to Tolstoy's works. Within a year or two even Yasnaya Polyana would no longer be hers.

Ilya had an angry confrontation with Sasha and Chertkov at Telyatniki, the neighbouring estate, and returned furious, leaving a greatly disturbed Sonya a short time later. "My son Ilya has left," she wrote in her diary. "He has been with Sasha and Chertkov, and when we get to know more and more that he is an evil and cunning man. I want to photograph the grave... In the evening, developed the photographs... The beauty makes me still more dejected."

After all the years of near madness, suspicion, and bitter reproach, Sonya seemed to have found the strength to let events shape themselves as they would. On December 31, 1910, she ceased keeping her diary. It was as though she did not think the progression of days and nights without Tolstoy mattered. What was of importance was the past and anything concerning his memory.

Never leaving Yasnaya Polyana, she struggled to keep the house and its surroundings as they were when Tolstoy was alive. Despite frost and freezing winds, she seldom missed her daily visit to his grave. She kept her hair meticulously coiffed and her clothes in good repair, and she tended the house with the same disciplined eye for order that she had always possessed. Gone were the fearful anger and passion that had given her a terrifying force and a distracted air which her family, her doctors, and her visitors had all thought were certain indications of madness. Yet, these same people now perceived a different form of dementia in her. Her composure, good temper, and imperatibility were regarded as tragic signs of a mental breakdown, of a complete retreat from unpleasant reality. No one — least of all Sasha — could understand her calm acceptance of the final setting of Tolstoy's estate.

On February 26, 1913, Sasha bought Yasnaya Polyana from her mother for 400,000 roubles. (She had raised this money by selling the rights to Tolstoy's works.) On March 26 her father's long-cherished desire was fulfilled: over two-thirds of Yasnaya Polyana's land, including its fine carefully preserved woods, was transferred to the peasants. Sonya retained 540 of the estate's 1,800 acres. The previous year Sasha had sold the Moscow house with all its furnishings to the Moscow municipal government for 125,000 roubles with the request that it be used as a Tolstoy museum and library.

Sonya divided the money Sasha gave her equally among her family. There were, including daughters-in-law and grandchildren, thirty-eight members of the Tolstoy clan, and each received approximately 10,000 roubles, the grandchildren's money being placed in trust until they came of age. She had given away almost all she had, but a pension which the Tsar

had granted her allowed her to live a quiet but comfortable life at Yasnaya Polyana.

Although she was happy to have enriched her children, Sonya loathed the havoc the peasants soon caused. Within a few months they had destroyed much of the forest land by wholesale felling of trees, which were then sold. The sounds of axes and the acrimonious disputes between the peasants and their timber merchant infuriated Sonya, and she became even more determined that while she was mistress, life would be lived as it always had been in the house at Yasnaya Polyana. Breakfast was served at noon; and a four-course dinner at six in the evening. The waiters wore their white cotton gloves; the house was filled with laughter of children. Some things never change.

During the years after her father's death Sasha was occupied by responsibilities as his legatee. Her relations with the family except her mother were embittered. Since Chertkov was the co-executor of Tolstoy's literary estate, she had been forced to work closely with him, and her respectful affection for him had begun to sour.

## Tolstoyans killed all joy

She also began to feel irritated and disappointed by the Tolstoyans (the followers of her father's philosophy). Sasha came to believe that the Tolstoyans were "idlers," and she later confessed that they were repugnant to her. "Dirty in person, smelling of unwashed clothing; they killed all joy of life [and] preserved their gloomy Lenten faces, as if fearing to spoil their state of perfection by an unnecessary smile or a happy song." The Tolstoyans were not, however, an enduring problem; despite Chertkov's great efforts to win them over, they would not accept him as their leader, and they soon drifted away.

Although Sasha kept busy, life had come to seem futile. Her father, her love, her God were dead. Sonya was able to laugh with her grandchildren and find some solace in her daily visits to Tolstoy's grave, but Sasha was inconsolable. Many years later she commented, "While [my father] was with me, I had no interest of my own; all that was serious and genuine was wrapped up with him. And when he departed, there remained a yawning void, an emptiness which I did not know how to fill."

Then suddenly war broke out, shocking Sonya and the household at Yasnaya Polyana; so caught up in their grief, in their fashioning of new lives without Tolstoy, they were barely conscious of the warlike mood throughout Europe, most especially in Germany.

The declaration of war on August 2, 1914, gave rise to a wave of patriotism. Suddenly the Tsar was a hero, and thousands gathered outside the Winter Palace to cheer him. For one dramatic and fleeting moment in his regime Nicholas was loved by his subjects. Even Sasha was moved by patriotic fervour. The army commandeered her horses, the peasants traded their ploughs for guns, and Yasnaya Polyana and Telyatniki were desolate. Declaring that she could not sit with "folded hands", Sasha decided to go to the front as a nurse.

When she returned home in the summer of 1915 to recuperate from a serious case of malaria she was shocked to see how much her mother had aged. Sonya had greeted her daughter with happy tears; then she

spoke about Tolstoy's death and fell into a reverie. Her sight was failing and she could neither read nor write; little interested in her; and she spent her days dozing in an armchair. Sasha was certain that she was senile, and after only three days she left to return to the front.

In the summer of 1917 there was internal fighting everywhere. The long road from Moscow to Yasnaya Polyana was lined with battered houses, tumbled walls, and charred fields. Crude red flags declaring Bolshevik allegiance flew from many rooftops. Nearly every house in the district had been robbed and burned. There were rumours that Yasnaya Polyana was going to be destroyed not by the village peasants but by peasants from another area.

Sonya had her daughter Tanya gather together the household staff. After telling them to pack everything of Tolstoy's and a few personal possessions, she told Tanya to "telegraph Kerensky." Tell him the family of Tolstoy require an army to protect his home and papers.

Tanya thought it was an old woman's madness to expect that Kerensky (the head of the Provisional Government) would spare men to defend a family of distressed aristocrats. Still she dispatched the telegram.

Kerensky, who had long been an admirer of Tolstoy, did indeed send a band of a hundred men the following day to guard Yasnaya Polyana during the violent summer, so Sonya, her brood, and her home were spared further encounters. In November the fighting ceased, though the looting and burning continued. Fear permeated the atmosphere, but at least the Bolsheviks, who had taken power, were arresting and shooting people with a certain discretion; and persons who had been even peripherally involved in revolutionary activity under the old government were not in any great danger.

Arriving in Yasnaya Polyana in October, Sasha found that her house and lands at Telyatniki had been declared government property and had been laid claim to by members of the village Soviet who had taken what they wanted — horses, cows, machinery, tools, furniture, even clothes and dishes. Her mother assured her that she had saved some gold and would manage to take care of those at Yasnaya Polyana.

Sonya's composure shocked Sasha. Dinner — usually little more than beet root — was served as always at six by the waiter, who wore his carefully darned white gloves. There were no guests and the house was strangely silent, but Sonya's only complaint was that she could no longer read or write.

On her return to Moscow, Sasha received a letter from her Aunt Tanya Kuzminsky, saying she was leaving St. Petersburg and would have a few hours in Moscow before boarding the night train for Yasnaya Polyana. Tanya was frail, and Sasha feared that the poor conditions on the newly nationalized trains would prove to be too much for her.

Simply finding a seat on one of them was a difficult and sometimes dangerous task. On Sasha's trip from Yasnaya Polyana "people [had] climbed through the windows and on to the roofs of the coaches, hung on steps, or stood on the couplings. Police [had] menaced them with the butts of their guns, but they kept pushing forward. Boxes and baskets [had] burst open, women shrieked, window panes [had been] broken". Her aunt



Sonya in widowhood. She maintained Yasnaya Polyana as Tolstoy knew it

weighed no more than a slender twelve-year-old, and it would be impossible for her to endure such mayhem.

The station was mobbed when they arrived, and the only train departing that night for Yasnaya Polyana was the "Maxim Gorky," a proletarian train which had only fourth-class accommodation. Sasha gave a porter the few roubles she had, and left her aunt in a corner of the station on one of her boxes, the porter guarding her. She then hurried to the stationmaster.

"Comrade!" she shouted through the crowd that surrounded him. "Tolstoy's sister is taking the next train and she's an old woman. She was Natasha Rostova in *War and Peace*. Please give her a seat on the train. She's going to Yasnaya Polyana."

The stationmaster ignored her as he did all the others who were begging his help. When he jumped up and walked out onto the platform, Sasha ran after him crying, "Comrade, please, I beg you. The sister of Tolstoy!" He strode away without even glancing at her.

## Boiled beet and no meat

Finding the head conductor, Sasha begged, "Please help me. My aunt, Tolstoy's sister, must get on the train. Please give her a seat."

"No room," the man told her. "Full!" He walked briskly up the platform. Beside a car with empty seats, she asked: "Who is in this car?"

"Commissars," Sasha rapped on the windows, shouting, "Comrades! Comrades!" Finally an old man with unkempt hair came to the window. "What's the matter, comrade?"

"The sister of Tolstoy, an old woman of seventy, simply must go to Yasnaya Polyana today. The crowd has nearly killed her — she is sick — please take her."

"And who are you?" "Tolstoy's daughter." The head disappeared and in a

moment popped out again. "We'll take your old lady."

"Auntie! Auntie! Come quickly!" Sasha called. Tanya and the porter ran after her as the train had already begun to move. Once alongside the car, Sasha pushed her aunt from below, while the porter — who had tossed the cases in and then jumped after them — pulled her from above.

This would be Tanya Kuzminsky's final journey to Yasnaya Polyana, and she enjoyed every moment of it. Being the only woman in the commissars' car, she was treated most cordially and was even fed roast chicken. When she reached Yasnaya Polyana, she told Sonya all about it, her face flushed with excitement. Finally, sighing, she ended her recital: "But they were disappointed that I was not Tolstoy's sister, but only his sister-in-law."

Early in 1918 famine spread across Russia but at Yasnaya Polyana dinner — "boiled winter beets, no meat [and] some little, very little pieces of black bread made of flour mixed with chaff" — was still served. Sonya insisted that a white damask cloth cover the table, that the silver be polished, and that the best plates be used. Thanks to Kerensky, her possessions had never been taken from her.

Towards the end of 1918 Yasnaya Polyana was taken over by the government to be used as a farm commune, and a Yasnaya Polyana Society was organized in Tula. Its members were those few intellectuals who still remained in the area, and its task was to organize educational facilities for the peasants who worked the lands of Yasnaya Polyana. The chairman appointed by the government was a writer who had been known and disliked by Tolstoy.

Sonya distrusted him from the very beginning, and with good reason. He was continually surprising the inhabitants of Yasnaya Polyana by his noiseless entrances; he spoke in an often inaudible voice and had a deeply conspiratorial air. Yet, however much she disliked the chairman, she was grateful for

the food, clothing, soap, and other necessities he was able to wheedle out of the government for her, her family, and the 150 village peasants.

## Chertkov rude to family

Chertkov had moved to Moscow to begin preparation for the Soviet government edition of Tolstoy's complete works, but it seemed his spirit lived on in the chairman. He set himself up as the seat of authority in Sonya's household, found fault with everything, and was rude to her and her family and servants. He refused to requisition help for the heavy tasks like washing windows and putting in the winter frames.

When Sasha returned for a visit and saw her mother, sister and aunt doing these hard jobs in the cold wind of November, she angrily returned to Moscow and immediately went to see the commissar of education. Sasha made a little speech about Yasnaya Polyana and its importance to the nation, and concluded: "I think that the Tolstoy estate ought to be not a Soviet farm but a museum, like Goethe's home, and that I should replace the current chairman." To Sasha's amazement the commissar agreed, she then returned to Yasnaya Polyana and dismissed the chairman. Sasha was now mistress in Sonya's home.

Life at Yasnaya Polyana was somewhat easier for Sonya with her daughter as commissar, but it also meant that she had to ask Sasha for even the smallest things she needed. She did not complain, however, but simply grew more quiet and withdrawn.

Nearly blind, she set in reserve most days. The hardships she had borne trimmed her matron's figure, and her voice faded to a whisper. She was still handsome, and the shadow of her youthful beauty lingered in her features. Her greatest happiness was her grandchildren, and when they came to see her, she would suddenly come alive and walk in the garden with them and tell them the stories she had written

so many years before — "The Skeleton Dolls" and "How Tax the Dog Was Saved".

On November 1, 1919, Sasha made plans to take the midnight train to Moscow. Sonya, feeling a chill, had retired early. Sasha packed her bag and then went upstairs to have tea in the sitting room with Tanya Kuzminsky. "Auntie dearest, tell me my fortune," Sasha asked, thinking that this would help while away the time until she had to leave for the station.

After finishing her game of solitaire, Tanya gathered together and shuffled the cards and asked Sasha to cut them and spread them out. She stared down at the cards. Then, with a quick movement, she swept them together, saying, "Bad, very bad."

Sasha begged her to tell her what she had seen, but her aunt adamantly refused. Sasha persisted. "All right," Tanya sighed — "If I must. Illness and death of a close relative. You won't go away tonight."

Sasha asked to cut the deck again, and turned up the seven of spades, indicating illness. "Again, Auntie," she insisted. This time she turned up the ace of spades — death. Tanya paled, and cried angrily, "Nonsense! Are you mad? Forget it!"

Sasha went to see if her mother would like some tea. A small kerosene lamp burned dimly on Sonya's desk and she lay with her face turned to the wall. "I am... very cold", she murmured "... please cover me."

Sasha touched her and found that Sonya was burning with fever. They gave Sonya tea and wine and sent for the doctor. When he arrived, he said that there was little he could do; Sonya had advanced pneumonia. For three days she suffered badly, her coughing spasms too painful to watch. But she was uncomplaining, enduring, and gentle. On the third night she insisted on speaking to her daughters, Sasha and Tanya Sukhotin.

"Are you thinking of Father?" Tanya asked, trying to help her mother sort out her confused thoughts.

"Constantly... constantly. Tanya... it torments me that I didn't get along with him better, but... before I die, Tanya... I want to tell you... I never, never loved anyone but him."

She looked at her daughters with large, dark, clouded eyes. Both Sasha and Tanya were crying bitterly, but Sonya was calm. The next morning she could no longer speak, but she opened her eyes wide and nodded to tell her family that she recognized them. When her sister came to her bed and took her hand, Sonya summoned the strength to return her grasp. Moments later she was dead.

It was November 4, 1919. She was seventy-five years old and had seen four tsars, several wars, famine, revolution, the birth of thirteen children, the death of seven. She had spent forty-eight years with a man whose name would be remembered as long as the names of any of the tsars she had met or the revolutionaries who had replaced them.

© 1981 Anne Edwards

From Sonya: The Life of Countess Tolstoy, which is published by Hodder and Stoughton at £8.50.



Alexandra Tolstoy with her father



Tolstoy's grave in the woods at Yasnaya Polyana. Sonya rarely missed her daily visit to it



Tolstoy at his desk in his declining years



THE ARTS

Books

# Dangerous journeys

Makers of Modern Culture

A Biographical Dictionary Edited by Justin Wintle (Routledge, £12.50)

"This book is simply intended to be useful." A promising if slightly obvious start, you might say, in an editor's introduction to a reference book. Read a bit further, however, and that initial declaration sounds anything but obvious.

While each entry to *Makers of Modern Culture* is about the cultural achievement of an individual, each is also written by an individual "and... I have not tried to disguise the fact. Deliberately I encourage the contributors to be interpretative, within certain limits." Why? "Because culture itself (and by culture I mean how we see ourselves) is interpretative." To pretend that culture can be neatly packaged in an objective summary, in an authorized version, is directly antithetical to the business of culture.

In the course of his next three pages, Justin Wintle proceeds to erect a tight little jungle of truisms, vacuous definitions, and gloriously false antitheses which seem designed to leave the reader's mind in an anxious blur. Will the book make judgments about its subjects' importance? Yes and no. Will it offer facts? Not necessarily. Does it reflect the editor's views? No, and then again yes.

Will readers find it useful? Yes and no. Wintle's 240 entries and academics interpret their brief, if any, in almost as many ways. Readers in pursuit of scientists (yes, his definition of culture means whatever he wants it to mean) will probably alight on workmanlike articles, as will those in search of architects and economists, philosophers and social scientists. The contributors in these areas seem to have an instinctive sense of what the lay reader requires, and a proper humility in the face of their task.

With the arts proper, things fall apart. While some of the literary entries are, at least, carefully all their space to straight biography, others disdain to mention anything so humdrum as writers' early circumstances and the sort of education they received. Wintle's entries ably outline the whole shape of their subjects' creative trajectory, others merely offer the sort of critical appreciation (or critical assassination — see the gaudy entry on poor old Galsworthy) you might find in a weekly newspaper.

It is, of course, harder to write about minor eminences than major ones, but many of the pieces on poets, novelists, painters and musicians are shot through with special pleading. We hear a lot about "masterpieces" by composers whose fame does not extend beyond the confines of inward-looking coteries. Pseudo Corner should have a field day with the entries on the avant-garde. In this house of culture a lot of the bricks are made of nothing more solid than critical gush.

The edifice, moreover, is oddly skewed. Wintle's culture is a modish, upmarket affair which will date uncomfortably fast: he claims to be aware of this danger, but has taken no precautions. The inevitable result of long, reverential studies of famous luminaries like Kierkegaard, Keesey, and Casanovada is that writers of enduring importance are kept out. There are only 537 "makers" in all.

Culture, it is also clear, is not popular. Not even Agatha Christie gets in. (Coco Chanel does, Mary Queen does not, and so on. So where does that leave us? Compared with two short and incontrovertibly useful works, *The Fontana Dictionary of Modern Thought* and the new edition of the *Longman Companion to Twentieth Century Literature*, this book falls its own test. The best one can say is that it is illuminating, by fits and starts.

Michael Church

FACES AND EVENTS

by Adel Malik

Adel Malik, a Lebanese journalist and novelist, has just finished a second series of 13 episodes on documentary films.

"Faces and Events"

"Faces and Events" are a series of documentary current affairs programmes produced specifically for the Arab audience, bringing it up to date with the News, Views, and latest technology in the fields of Science, Economics, General Knowledge, Medicine, Politics, the Arts and Anthropology. The programmes are recorded in British Studios with the use of the most sophisticated technological equipment available today. The first series of "Faces and Events" has already been screened in several Arab Countries and the second series will be shown to the same audience.

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Cinema

# Antonioni's vision of Cocteau's stylish melodrama

In the dozen years since *Zabriskie Point*, the career of Michelangelo Antonioni seems to have been in limbo, with only his Chinese documentary and *Passenger* (1975) in the long interim. The *Oberwald Mystery*, a video adaptation for Italian television of Jean Cocteau's 1946 play, *L'Atelier des Tentes*, looks like a chosen or cherished project.

Still, Cocteau was a deft and cunning entertainer, and *L'Atelier des Tentes* which started life as a period piece in any case and so has dated a little, still holds the attraction of a well-wrought melodrama, infused with Cocteau's individual style of romantic fatalism.

With the play, Cocteau wanted to create something out of those 19th century German ruling families "who did not make masterpieces themselves, but were made into masterpieces, or if not masterpieces, at least into Ruritania." He liked the enigma of the death of Ludwig II of Bavaria, and was enchanted by the personality of the Empress Elizabeth, who inspired the principle character of the queen.

His story draws upon all the rich Hapsburg store of assassinations and intrigues. Cocteau's queen has locked herself away as a recluse since the assassination of her handsome young husband on their wedding day. The court and country are in the hands of her plotting mother-in-law and the dangerous chief of police. Discontent is rife; anarchists on the prowl.

One night, an anarchist breaks into the queen's room but his mission to kill her is frustrated when he falls down in a faint. The queen is taken by his resemblance to her dead husband, and in their subsequent conversations her own anarchic instincts brings them into an alliance. The queen determines to take over the government once more, but tragic inevitability intervenes.

Cocteau wanted to write roles to restore to the stage the old-style monster secrets, the over-the-top, players like Bernhardt and Réjane whose personalities dominated and eclipsed whatever vehicle they appeared in. The part of the queen was created by Edwige Fenech, with Jean Marais as the young anarchist lover. In the United States, the role was played by Tallulah Bankhead.

Monica Vitti, more fiercely beautiful even than when she last worked with Antonioni seven years ago, in *The Red Desert*, does achieve something of the queen's role, as she does when she brings her own anarchic instincts brings them into an alliance. The queen determines to take over the government once more, but tragic inevitability intervenes.

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Oberwald Mystery

Camden Plaza

de Oliveira season

NFT

Caveman

Studio Oxford Street

The Cannonball Run

Odeon St Martin's Lane, Classic Haymarket



Franco Branciaroli and below, "Caveman" couple Ringo Starr and Barbara Bach



with glowering eyes, has the looks for the anarchist, but cannot bring himself to the extravagance Cocteau taught Jean Marais for the role, the nerve to go over the top and keep going, defying ridicule.

Maybe it is the lack of nerve that actually makes Cocteau's grand neoclassical finale a bit absurd in this version. The high romanticism which Cocteau brought off in his own version of the film is not Antonioni's style. He is better, certainly, in picturing the castle-prison, the numerous deceptions and intrigues always conducted according to

the strict rules of courtly protocol. In interviews Antonioni has spoken of his pleasure in working on video, with the possibility it gives for colour effects which would be difficult or impossible to achieve on film. At times it is possible at least to sense the effects at which he is aiming; at others it looks much like knob-wielding, and the results have all too often the livid crudity of *Top of the Pops*.

After 50 years of quietly making his own idiosyncratic sort of films, apparently as a dilettante director, the Port-

guese Manoel de Oliveira has been brought to light by festivals and film critics, ever on the hunt for rediscoveries and revaluations. Now the National Film Theatre have got hold of him, announcing him as "a great director." He is not; and it is a great unkindness to the poor man to overrate him so.

Oliveira has his own attractions and his own style: a dry, dry, dry, and precise handling of actors and situations. But both the style and stories appear to be strictly limited, though he certainly

makes them go a long way. *Il Fato del Lupo* (1978) runs 4½ hours. Past and present (offered as "one of his most enjoyable films" and, quite misleadingly, "a rich and heavy feast") runs only two hours, but its small, amusing anecdote would have provided Bunuel (with whom, again quite invidiously, he is compared) with a five-minute episode in *The Phantom of Liberty*.

*Caveman*, written and directed by Carl Gottlieb, is an odd undertaking — comic-strip slapstick set in neanderthal days, with characters grunting

about in an invented language. It all seems part of the new — and probably very just — assumption by American film manufacturers that the audience, in the end, wants only to be told simple tales, to be taken back to the worlds of childhood reading.

This film achieves, and it is quite unobjectionable in its artlessness. Ringo Starr is the clever fool of his tribe who teaches the others to walk upright; who invents fire, music, weapons and other essentials of civilization (though he discards the wheel as having no future); and finally gets his girl after a match of brain against brawn.

The film has its moments of comic invention, an even flickering charm. It fades into insignificance though beside Buster Keaton's variations on the caveman theme — very much in vogue when he made his film nearly 60 years ago — in *The Three Ages*, which can be seen in all its glory and larger than life at the Electric Cinema next Friday.

Nothing entices a critic's curiosity more than an expensive, all-star film whose distributors do not show it to the press. In the case of *The Caveman*, Run, it is easy to see Twentieth Century-Fox's point: the less said about the picture's qualities, the better it is likely to be for boxoffice.

The film is in fact worth comment only as a supreme example of the stubbornly persistent belief among Hollywood merchants that films can be made with prodigious expenditure of money and without new ideas (this is a very second-hand one, a rough rehash of Paul Bartlett's *Cannonball Run*), without any judgment about talent or taste.

They are wrong again and always, of course. The costly stars of this film — Burt Reynolds, Roger Moore, Farrah Fawcett, Dom DeLuise, Dean Cain, Sammi Smith Jr. — are simply propped up like cardboard cutouts of themselves. The only element of suspense is provided by Dean Martin, who gives only a life-size imitation of a drunk that you are always amazed when he stays on his feet and stumps out a line.

The worst aspect of such films is the big-run sales strategies they force upon the distributor. In the US they made the unprecedented number of more than 1,600 prints of the film, so as to clean up in the first week, before word got out. In this country, to achieve the same ends, the critics have been kept away while the film is shown in a select number of cinemas with a full-blast publicity campaign.

David Robinson

Ballet

# Right for the young

Les Patineurs

Sadler's Wells

Frederick Ashton's *Les Patineurs* suits young dancers, more often than any other work for the Royal Ballet School's performances, and they repeated it at Sadler's Wells.

In previous school revivals, it has been the girls in blue or the male dancers who stood out; this time the best of the featured dancers were Gillian MacLaurin, partnered by Jonathan Cope in the duet, and apart from them it was the ensemble that most impressed.

David Woy made a good shot at the leading part, however, with confident pirouettes, although the first day he was a little shaky at getting his feet higher than his head in the "butterfly" jumps.

Karen Gee (who is dancing one performance as Lisa in *Les Patineurs* at the Wells) and Fiona Brockway were the

blue girls; they and the rest of the cast had obviously benefited from having ex-dancer Julia Farron to rehearse them. A pity not to have the last-minute slight in William Chappell's decor, but the snow fell abundantly at the end.

Given this year's weather, that might have been appropriate also for the intended evocation of English summer-time in Richard Glasstone's *An Afternoon in the Country*, given its premiere by students from the lower school. To music by William Boyce (didn't Constant Lambert deserve a programme credit for his arrangement?), this was an evocation also of eighteenth-century pastoral manners.

I suspect that the teenage cast would prefer something more to tackle and would gain more from it, but within its self-imposed limits Glasstone's choreography is skilfully arranged and there could be no complaints about the way it was performed. Soumya Martin Corri, alone or in a flirtatious duet with Sara Gallie, and lively Kevin O'Hare were notable, but there were no weak links.

I am sorry that I missed the cast list for the School's *File* last Saturday. Simon Rice danced Alain; Bjorn Bettenhausen's role was Thomas, his father. John Percival

Concerts in London

# Chill taste of death on the tongue

Tear/Ledger

Queen Elizabeth Hall

False expectations of a jam-pottery such as the south bank Festival of Romantics, encouraged by its lofty and sometimes confused aspirations articulated through inflated verbal packaging and cut-throat presentation, can but should not blind one to the subtle interlarding of individual events.

Enjoyment of Wednesday

BBC NSO

Albert Hall

The BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra under its chief guest conductor, Gunther Herbig, started Wednesday's Prom with a vivid performance of Lutoslawski's *Five Pieces for Orchestra*, a work of 1958 score of Lutoslawski's. A difficulty is that they leave the impression that their composer has simply devised a series of effects, all ingenious and some beautiful, without justification or necessity. The four "chapters" of this *Five* seem to be demonstrations of an inventive faculty separated from expression, and they lead one to fear the worst. Namely that Marshall MacLuhan was right after all and the medium is, merely, the message.

Luckily, the concert's other item, such as Beethoven's *Eroica* symphony had an abundance of content as well as

night's recital by Robert Tear and Philip Ledger, for instance, may well have been sharpened for many by George Steiner's invigorating Monday lecture on the Romantic Spirit, William Vaughan's outline of German Romantic painting, and particularly yesterday, by Ernst Haefliger's leader masterclass. There we heard Lawrence Wallington's powerful and moving study of Schubert's *Der Wanderer*,



Medical briefing: the first in an occasional Times series on new developments in the sciences

## When suicide is just a way of life

Caroline Smith, aged 15, had a row with her younger sister over whose turn it was to do the washing up. She went to her room and swallowed 70 aspirin tablets.

A week before, a girl in the same class at school had a row with her mother, locked herself in the bathroom, and swallowed 30 sleeping tablets. When Caroline went into hospital, the teenage girl in the next bed was there because she had swallowed pain-killing tablets. Caroline and her school friend survived. The girl in the next bed died of liver failure. Caroline's name is false but her story is true and horrifyingly familiar. We will never know how many teenagers take deliberate overdoses, or what proportion gets medical attention, but recent surveys suggest that in a single year, in many of our cities, one out of every 150 girls aged between 15 and 19 will take a deliberate overdose. That number is ten times more than in the late 1950's.

And the boys are beginning to catch up. In the early 60's, five times more girls than boys took an overdose; now the number of girls is probably just one and a half times that of the boys.

Doctors and nurses who work in accident departments that have to cope with a dozen or more teenage overdoses a week can come to accept them as a routine chore that gets in the way of more serious business. Road accident victims, for instance, seem worthier of time and skill than do the self-inflicted problems of teenagers.

The adolescents have their stomachs washed out and are admitted to a ward. Some may be seen by a social worker or a psychiatrist but most are discharged with an outpatient appointment to see a psychiatrist. Few of them keep that appointment. Prescriptions of work for doctors and nurses into an uneasy acceptance of what is going on. And teenagers themselves share that acceptance. One told me last year that the fact that so many people his age seemed to be trying to kill themselves was just "a part of life".

The World Health Organization has described the outbreak of self-poisoning as an "epidemic". That is probably too

medical a label; "fashion" could be a more accurate description. Some years ago Caroline's action would have been called "attempted suicide" but that phrase lost credence in the 1960s when psychiatrists in Edinburgh analysed one year's "suicide attempts" and found that most people who took an overdose were not seeking death but oblivion. As the Scots say, they "want out" or as a Geordie girl told me, she "wanted awa". And they "want awa" because they are distressed to the point of despair. In some who are mentally ill, the despair comes from within; in most, it comes from outside.

### Ambivalence is involved

A girl will take an overdose only if she is distressed beyond endurance and so desperate that she cannot see a rational solution. She does not say no solution exists; she just cannot find it. A person committing suicide says: "There is no way out." A girl taking an overdose says: "I cannot see a way out."

Psychiatrists illustrate the ambivalence that is involved with the tale of the man who climbed on to a ledge on the Brooklyn bridge to throw himself off. He dithered long enough for the police to arrive, and when he jumped, they had a launch alongside him in the water. A policeman threw him a rope and told him to grab it. "Leave me alone" said the man. "I want to die."

The policeman drew his gun. "Grab that rope," he said. The man did and was hauled aboard. Over the past two years I've talked with over 60 teenage girls who have taken overdoses — not a great number, but the things they said were extraordinarily similar. For about 40 of them the overdose was an impulsive act — even five minutes before they took the tablets the idea had not been in their minds.

When I asked them why they'd done it, most of them said something like: "I don't know. It just came over me. I had to get out of it."

When I asked if they were trying to kill themselves, all said "No". But they were offering a

rationalization long after the event. It is possible that at the moment they took the tablets they did want to die. It is also possible that if the tablets had not been readily available, they would not have tried.

When the act is undramatic, it is easy to take it too lightly. Many overdoses are successful. The child dies. A girl who takes five aspirin tablets may seem to have made a "pre-emptive" attempt at self-destruction, but it does not mean she has suffered any less distress than the girl who takes 50. Anyone who deliberately takes an overdose no matter how small, must be offered help, say the psychiatrists.

Help need not necessarily come from a doctor, nurse or social worker; any worldly wise friend can act as a dispassionate expert and help the girl unravel, even resolve, the problems that drove her to despair.

These days, dispassionate experts are in short supply. One

girl I saw took an overdose soon after her family had to move from the Northumbrian village in which she grew up and away from the grandmother in whom she had been able to confide.

Phrases like "a suicidal gesture" and "a cry for help" can be dangerously misleading because they imply a degree of manipulation that doesn't exist.

Manipulation may come later when a girl discovers her admission to hospital is a powerful weapon to re-attract an errant boyfriend but, at the moment of taking the poison, her motive is not to manipulate. Her action is not conceived with any expectation of survival. It is a paradoxical mixture of senselessness and purpose.

Here is how one girl told me why she had taken 70 aspirin tablets: "I didn't think they'd kill me. But I didn't mind if they did. Come to think of it, I did mind. I thought when my mother found me she'd know how much she'd upset me. But

when I thought about it, I didn't want to hurt her and my father. I just wanted them to know I was upset. I didn't really want to die. At least I don't think I did. I'm glad now that I didn't."

Self-poisoning is infectious. A case in a school can trigger others. Goethe's novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther*, in which a young man thwarted in love shoots himself, provoked so many imitative suicides that several countries banned its sale. More recently a British psychiatrist showed that reports of coroners' inquests triggered similar imitative acts and his findings led to a call for a ban on all reporting of suicides.

Others have suggested more practical measures. The most obvious preventative approach is to try to get through to teenagers at the moment of stress. Organizations like the Samaritans offer a telephone number which anyone contemplating self-destruction can ring. That is too passive for most adolescents.

I spoke with one girl who'd copied the number of the local Samaritans from the telephone directory. She had it written on a piece of paper in her pocket when she went to the chemist to buy the bottle of aspirin tablets she was to swallow.

When I asked her why she had not rung, she said: "Because the people at the other end of the line would be just like my parents and my teachers, the sort of people who were already on my back."

In California I came across a more aggressive approach at the Suicide Prevention Centre in San Mateo, just down the bay from San Francisco. The centre's director, Charlotte Ross has set up a Samaritan-like telephone lifeline, but she also seeks out adolescents who are at risk. She has persuaded local schools, for instance, to include discussion of suicide in their curricula. She and her helpers visit the schools and talk with the pupils about the sort of stress, even despair, how they might cope with it. She also encourages adolescents to come to her or her helpers at the centre if they are worried about any of their friends — if you like to "tell tales".

Unlike the Samaritans, the San Mateo Centre is prepared to intervene on the strength of those "tales". Charlotte Ross doesn't mind being called a "busybody" if, by being one, she can prevent unnecessary deaths.

One of her fears when she started the schools programme was of the *Young Werther* effect. Discussion of suicide may put the idea into adolescent heads, but the results Charlotte Ross is beginning to achieve suggest that, if the discussions are conducted with sensitivity and skill, the benefits far outweigh the risks.

Because so many cases of self-poisoning are impulsive, one way to cut the number would be to make drugs less available. Doctors could be more careful and parsimonious in their prescribing; chemists more wary of selling large quantities of tablets to obviously distressed teenagers; parents should clear bottles of lethal drugs from unlocked bathroom cabinets.

Locking drugs away may keep them out of sight but not necessarily out of mind. Richard Farmer, senior lecturer in Community Medicine at Westminster Hospital Medical School in London has pointed out that over the past 30 years we have been conditioned to link relief from mental stress with drugs. Young people, he says, have always had problems in coming to terms with the world, in learning about relationships and about themselves. The process of learning has always been painful but now many adolescents are prescribed tranquilizers to ease the pain.

Says Farmer: "The tranquilizer suppresses the pain but does not necessarily enhance the experience. It also invites people to look to some external solution for the problems of life rather than to learn to cope with them or solve them themselves. Prescribing a tranquilizer may teach someone that to have a row with the boyfriend, or to feel anxious about an exam, or to feel unhappy about her employment prospects is abnormal."

It is an intriguing thought that an adolescent taking an overdose is seeking the ultimate tranquillizer, one that leads straight to oblivion. We may find it more productive to teach the young to work out other options besides the aspirin bottle for dealing with despair, rather than loading the blame on to the fashionable communication, failure of.

Meanwhile, parents of teenagers will continue to find it difficult at times to cope with their children's behaviour. They have to guess when to be stern, when to be lenient: trying all the time to do what is best for their children but never knowing whether they've got it right or wrong.

The problems of adolescence often seem over-dramatized to adults, but until we succeed in stemming this "epidemic" or changing this "fashion" we must learn to be more discriminating in our reactions, particularly towards those who have declared themselves at risk by taking an overdose. One in five will repeat the exercise.

Michael O'Donnell



The Death of Chatterton, by Henry Wallis

### Life before birth

## The astonishing skills of the baby menders

A baby boy is alive today because doctors operated on him while he was still in his mother's womb. It was to relieve pressure on the middle of the brain from an accumulation of fluid. This unique treatment of an unborn child was performed by Dr. Frederic Frigoletto and Dr. Jason Birnholz of the Harvard Medical School and Brigham and Women's Hospital, both in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Frigoletto says "success in this case does not mean prenatal surgery is an established procedure. It is a long way from becoming routine. The achieve-

ment was not so much a surgical success as a success for new developments in medico-technology in diagnosis."

The operation was to stop fluid accumulation in the ventricles, small cavities in the middle of the brain, which also link with the canal carrying the spinal chord. The defect was discovered following a "scan" — an examination with an ultrasonic scanner. This uses echoes of ultrasound waves to create pictures similar to, but without the hazards of, X-rays.

The pictures showed a blockage causing a build-up of pressure that would wreck massive brain

damage. To remedy the fault a drainage tube attached to a hypodermic needle was inserted into the brain, this was to remove excess fluid. The process was repeated six times over nine weeks.

To help guide the instrument to its exact spot, the procedure was monitored by echographs of the brain projected on to a television screen. In the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the doctors say the decision to continue pregnancy and operate was made jointly by the patient and her family and the attending specialists.

Although modern diagnostic equipment may reveal a defect, doctors cannot tell before birth whether a fault like this is a simple blockage or a more serious flaw in the brain. If it is the latter, the treatment would be of little long term benefit.

The baby boy who underwent treatment is now 18 months old. No subsequent case has arisen of this condition. But Dr. Frigoletto would prefer a modified procedure that would allow surplus fluid to drain steadily, rather than having to repeat the surgical intervention.

The brain at this stage is one of the easier structures to penetrate. But tiny catheters, other very small instruments and powerful microscopes are being developed with the object of repairing other organs in which defects are picked up by improved diagnostic methods.

However, this first operation is

encouraging for doctors in Britain and elsewhere who are exploring ways of saving life before birth, such as mending holes in the heart. The condition treated in Boston was a rare event. Dr. Frigoletto estimates he would not expect to encounter it more than once or twice a year in a large centre, like the Boston hospital, seeing some 6,000 pregnancies a year.

Heart defects cause more deaths among babies than the brain disorder. Prenatal surgery to treat a heart would demand incredibly delicate intervention because a foetal heart at, say, 24 weeks is smaller than a 10p piece.

Nevertheless, the subject has been discussed by the World Congress of Paediatric Cardiology. Its secretary, Professor Fergus Macartney, of the Great Ormond St. Hospital, advises caution, but he says it will come within 10 to 20 years.

Professor Macartney says advances in diagnosis are having an impact in identifying many prenatal conditions. But it is more difficult to examine, and possibly treat, the heart rather than the brain simply because it is moving as it pulsates. So he does not think we are at the brink of prenatal heart surgery.

Yet there are indications, from

earliest opportunity. One condition is unusual in that the goal would be to prevent a small hole in the heart closing. The purpose would be to prevent the closure at too early a stage of the foetal development which connects the right and left rear chambers of the heart (the atria).

In the mature person the two chambers are firmly separated because the right one receives blood from the body to be pushed through the lungs for oxygenation. The left one receives the blood after it has been through the lungs. There is evidence that if the gap closes too soon in the unborn, it produces a heart malformation which is almost invariably fatal.

It is possible with ultrasonic scans and microsurgery, a tiny hollow tube with a very small balloon at its tip could be introduced into the gap to stop it closing too soon. But before this can be considered, various teams of doctors are collaborating research to perfect their methods of diagnosis, the latest type of scanner provides pictures of astonishing detail.

In London a group drawn from the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, Guy's Hospital and King's College Hospital are accumulating experience in interpreting echographs. For their research to succeed, however, a screening system in pregnancy has also to be devised to identify high risk babies.

Pearce Wright  
Science Editor

### Growth research

## New risks to the short and the tall



A pioneering medical unit, which screens children from becoming either dwarfs or giants, is threatened because of cuts in the grant to London University.

The Institute of Child Health, one of London's postgraduate medical institutes, is having to cut its running costs by more than 15 per cent and one of its units most at risk is the Department of Growth and Development.

The tiny department is helping a total of 450 children to lead a normal life. It holds 2,000 patient examinations a year and was the first place in Britain to introduce the successful treatment of dwarfism.

Sarah Fry now aged 15, was one of its first patients. At the age of six, she was the height of a three year old and without treatment she would not have reached four feet. Although her mother frequently expressed anxiety about her daughter's height, doctors kept telling her for four years that she was perfectly normal and that a later growth spurt would enable her to catch up.

It was the school medical officer who eventually said that research was going on into child growth at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, London, and Sarah was referred to the Institute of Child Health there.

Sarah was discovered to have a complaint which affects about one in 5,000 of the population, an inability to produce the right amount of human growth hormone. Some children make too little and some children have too much.

It is easy to treat if it is spotted early enough and if it is correctly diagnosed. Ideally children should be treated from the age of two or three years, though the department rarely sees them before the age of nine.

The treatment consists of injections three times a week with the hormone, which is extracted from the pituitary glands of corpses. There is an almost continuous shortage of the hormone, so no one is treated unless strictly necessary. In the United States, the shortage is so great that no one is treated after they reach five feet.

At first, the children are injected at the clinic, then the district nurse carries out the injections, and then the parents are taught how to do so. A total of 150 children have now successfully completed treatment.

For those children who are clearly going to be excessively tall, the treatment is to bring on puberty early, after which the bones fuse, so no further growth can take place.

In Sarah's case, she was given the necessary injections for seven years, from the age of seven until last Christmas when she reached the age of 14 and the height of 5ft 11in.

If she had been treated from an earlier age, she probably would have grown taller because her mother is 5ft 10in, her father 6ft 11in and her sister Tamzin, who is two years younger, is 5ft 9in.

Her father, Mr. Tom Fry, a BBC producer, said that he will be forever grateful to the department. "As far as my daughter is concerned it made the difference to her between

being an abnormal midget and a young lady of normal stature."

"At six, she was an introverted, introverted child, shy and subdued and not up to the things her peers were doing. Now she is healthy, outgoing and normal. She is just one of several hundred children that the department treat. I cannot conceive how this department could be threatened and so many children condemned to unfortunate lives for the sake of the small sums involved."

A total of 900 children a year are treated for growth disorders in the United Kingdom at 20 centres from Aberdeen to Southampton, but it is estimated that about twice that number could benefit from treatment.

The department at the Institute of Child Health is the leading centre in terms of the numbers it treats (about half the total), the research it carries out and the reputation of its staff.

Professor James Tanner, the department's head, is one of the world's leading authorities on child growth and is fighting to ensure that his department continues. He is trying to raise £150,000 to ensure its immediate survival.

The health service should not underwrite the costs of a change in funding the universities

His department consists of two consultant physicians, a senior registrar who coordinates all the human growth hormone work in the country, an auxologist (someone who does the measuring), a recorder and two secretaries. It costs about £100,000 a year and the institute would like to see the costs cut.

The Institute, in common with London University's other postgraduate medical institutes, has been particularly badly affected by the rise in overseas student fees. It has led to a drop in overseas students but the Government assumes that numbers are constant and assesses each university's grant accordingly.

The threat to the department is in abeyance but is expected to re-emerge in the autumn.

Mr. Alfred Morris, Labour MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe, and former Minister for the Disabled, has taken up his case with Dr. Cerard Vaughan, Minister for Health.

Dr. Vaughan replied to Mr. Morris, saying that although the department was clearly doing important work, it was "not the right answer to expect the National Health Service to underwrite the costs of a change in funding of the universities."

The Department of Education and Science was looking again at the way the policy had been applied, however, and it was hoped that something would be done, Dr. Vaughan said.

Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services Correspondent



An ultrasonic picture of a foetus in the womb

### Diet and health

## Is salt really bad for you?

With the total conviction that characterises much medical advice, doctors have begun to warn of the dangers of salt. Too much salt, they claim, is the cause of the raised blood pressure that threatens the health of so many middle-aged men and women.

The salt bandwagon is, indeed, replacing several longer-running competitors on the nutrition-and-health stakes. As long ago as the 1960s those of us who follow medical advice on what to eat learned the dangers of cholesterol and rationed the amounts of cream, eggs, butter, and cheese on our tables. The 70s saw the fibre hypothesis reach its zenith: wholemeal bread, beans, raw vegetables, cereals, and bran began to appear in every thinking person's diet. Now salt has become the focus of attention: apparently we should learn not only to lock away our salt cellars but also to cook without it and to find alternatives to salt fish and salami.

Can salt really be so dangerous? For most of recorded human history it has been valued as much for its flavour as for its value as a

preservative. Merchants made fortunes from salt; it inspired silverminers and artists in ceramics. How can such an old friend be treacherous — and why has the discovery come so late?

The possibility that dietary salt might be a cause of raised blood pressure has been suspected by medical scientists since the turn of the century. Around the world, communities who use little salt have few people with raised blood pressure, while nations such as the Japanese, who eat large amounts of salty food, suffer from hypertension and the resulting strokes and heart disease. During the 1940s and 1950s, when few drugs were available for lowering raised blood pressure, patients with hypertension were persuaded to eat a salt-free diet, and it proved an effective but unpopular treatment.

Even so, until recently doctors who believed that salt was an important cause of hypertension were in a minority for two reasons. Firstly, research studies repeatedly failed to show any clear connexion between the amount of salt eaten by an

individual and his or her blood pressure. Some people who ladled salt on to everything they ate had normal blood pressures; and others who took very little salt had severe hypertension. Secondly, experiments on animals shows that at least some types of hypertension bore no relation to salt intake, and no theoretical link between salt and human hypertension could be devised to satisfy all the sceptics.

More recently these objections have been overcome — at least in part. Experiments on rats have developed two contrasting breeds. One type of rat keeps a normal blood pressure when given a high salt diet; the other variety invariably becomes hypertensive on this diet. The two varieties breed true, showing that sensitivity to salt is genetically determined.

A parallel with these results, has now been discovered in man. Abnormally high amounts of salt (or strictly sodium) have been found in the red blood cells of patients with hypertension and in some of their healthy relatives. The current hypothesis is that, like rats, mankind can be divided

into those who are salt-sensitive and those who are not. The individuals who are salt-sensitive develop raised blood pressure if they eat a lot of salt; the salt-resistant majority are not affected by the amount of salt they eat. When national eating habits include a lot of salty foods the salt-sensitive minority become hypertensive; in parts of the world where salt is little used such people remain healthy. The last two years have seen a rising tide of evidence supporting the salt hypothesis, and in the United States the low-salt diet is now part of the medically recommended life style. The US Food and Drug Administration is looking at ways of reducing the amounts of salt in many precooked and ready-to-serve foodstuffs. Where does this leave us? First, anyone who is already on treatment with drugs for raised blood pressure is unlikely to be able to switch to dietary control. If the rats are any guide, once the blood pressure has become raised, it stays raised even if the amount of salt eaten is much reduced. As a treatment for established hypertension, low-salt

diets are far less effective than conventional drugs.

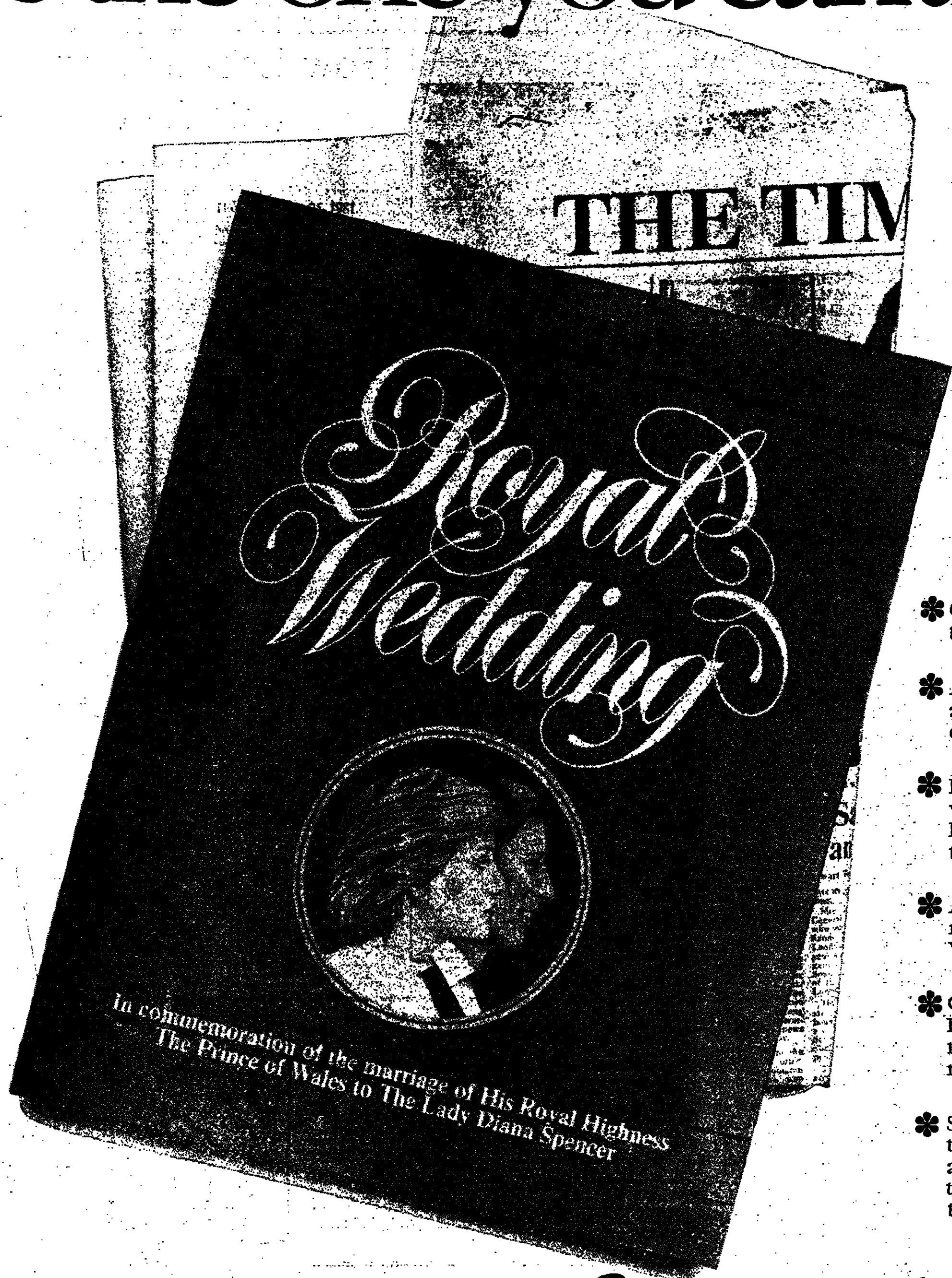
For the rest of us, however, the evidence is at this stage no more than suggestive. A contrast may be drawn with cigarette smoking. Only a minority of heavy smokers get lung cancer — but so many other diseases, including heart attacks, bronchitis, and bladder cancer, are linked with smoking that the medical case against it is overwhelming. Salt, however, seems to cause most of us no harm; if it proves to be dangerous only a few people will be affected. On present evidence young persons who have relatives with raised blood pressure might reasonably cut their salt intake — and they may well find that salt is less important as a flavour than they had believed.

When there is no known familial susceptibility to hypertension, however, avoidance of salt cannot rate much priority. Certainly salt carries less conviction as a hazard to health than the familiar ogres — tobacco, alcohol, and overweight.

Dr. Tony Smith  
Medical Correspondent



# The most collectable souvenir of the Wedding is the one you can't buy.



- \* Charles Douglas-Home on the politics of the monarchy.
- \* Antonia Fraser on the role a Royal Princess was and is expected to play.
- \* Norman St. John Stevas writes about the changes Britain has undergone since the Queen herself married.
- \* Anthony Holden, the royal biographer, asks Why Lady Diana?
- \* Godfrey Smith talks about Royal Gloucestershire, now home for three royal couples.
- \* Souvenir portraits of the bride and groom, a full-colour guide to the route, the family trees, and lots more.

## It comes free with THE TIMES on Tuesday



# After the riots, why Whitelaw should go

by Richard Shepherd

The current state of street rioting has died down but the conflict over how future riots can be prevented continues. Richard Shepherd, Conservative MP for Aldridge-Brownhills, argues that only the replacement of the Home Secretary will show that the Government has learnt from its past failures.



In a curious debate in the House of Commons on the recent civil disturbances, Members spent nearly eight hours identifying causes and indicating remedies, but not at any time challenging whether the Home Secretary had exercised his stewardship satisfactorily. The extent and nature of the disturbances were on a scale quite unprecedented in this country. Anywhere else, they would have at least raised questions as to the role and competence of the responsible authority. But this was never raised as an issue, nor was the role of the Home Secretary challenged.

Mr William Whitelaw has had

the bad fortune to be Home Secretary over a period which has encompassed the worst and most sustained periods of lawlessness of this century. For 10 days sections of our towns were outside the protection of the law.

There was something particularly shocking in seeing Kings Road, Chelsea, boarded up as if it were a war zone. What it signified was that the public did not believe that the authorities could protect them.

To what extent should one hold the Home Secretary

accountable? If these events had been spontaneous and the only one to have marked his period of office, it would be difficult to sustain a reasonable criticism. It would be fair to ask to what extent he should have anticipated the outbreak of disorder; but, in isolation, the judgment would be sympathetic. Clearly this is not the case in the present circumstances. July 1981 was presaged in a real sense in Bristol last year and in Brixton last May.

The Home Secretary's statement on the Bristol disturbances contained all the assurances that one would expect. He said: "A number of important lessons have been learnt from this event" and: "I am not prepared, and in no circumstances will be prepared, to contemplate 'no-go' areas in any part of this country or of the United Kingdom. It is very important to say that to be heard to say it, and for it to

be realized that it will not happen in the future." Mr Whitelaw also said: "I am keen to learn lessons for the future. If we are to do that, we should involve all those who are especially concerned."

What lessons had the Home Secretary learnt? In what way were they deployed in the events of the last two months? Had not Brixton in May concentrated the urgency of these issues? To the bystander, in this case the general public, it did not appear that the Home Office had a firm or coherent response. Indeed, as the toll of cities mounted, it seemed there was almost a vacuum at the centre.

This was clearly not helped by the Home Secretary's comments on parental responsibility. It was an issue, maybe, but hardly at the essence of either his responsibility or duty.

Many felt that in those dreadful days of disorder, we were looking into the abyss. What was required was a coherent, measured and prepared response. And this was absent from the Home Secretary until after the events, indicating little preparedness from the earlier experiences of Bristol and Brixton.

And when those responses had been elicited, was there anything in them that could not reasonably have been determined prior to the week of rioting and in response to the earlier challenges of Southall, Bristol and Brixton?

It is important that, on this issue, he maintains the confidence and morale of the community. He did not do so and therefore, I believe, that to restore public confidence in the Government's unequivocal commitment to public order and also to demonstrate both personal and ministerial responsibility, he should have resigned.

The principle is, of the utmost importance. There is a widespread public belief that personal responsibility no longer exists in public life and that the cosy consensus between those who govern us protects individuals from any responsibility, whether for negligence, incompetence or even culpable indifference.

It is an easy observation that the exit from public office is hardly crowded with individuals held personally accountable for their stewardship. In order to restore public confidence in government, it is important to demonstrate that those who govern, however great or grand their office, are accountable and that they are held to be so.

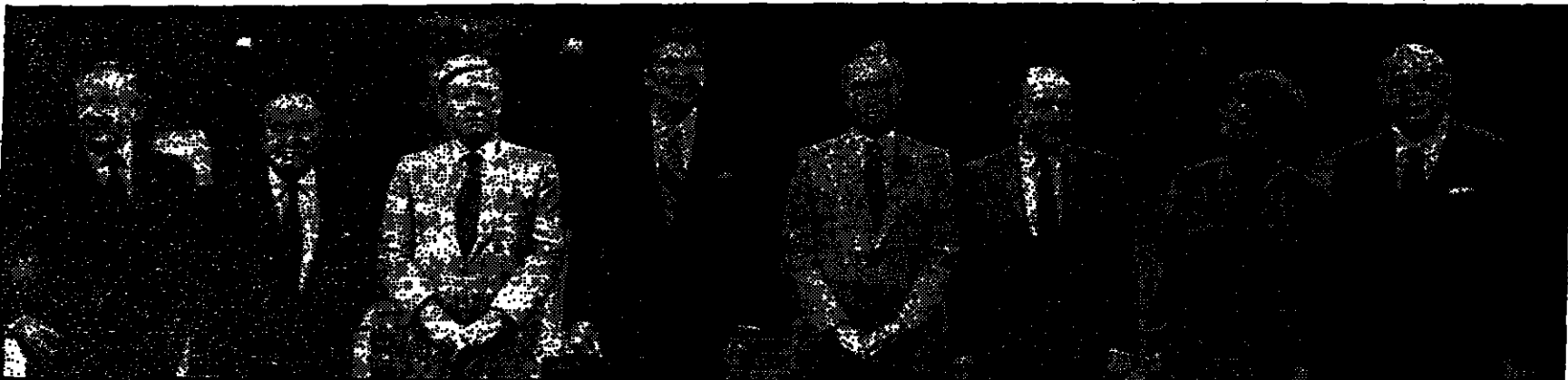
Because of this, I wrote to Mr Whitelaw on Monday July 13 saying I believed he had failed in his central responsibility and that he should resign. Mr Whitelaw replied on July 14 saying he did not accept my criticisms and invoked a new constitutional precept: "You will appreciate," he wrote, "my position is a matter for the Prime Minister and not for you or me." In that, he is surely wrong.

I advised him that I hoped to speak in the debate last Thursday and, if called, would raise the issues of preparedness and responsibility. I was not called and the debate centred on the usual cosy, almost self-congratulatory platitudes.



Mr Whitelaw: "On this issue he has not maintained the confidence and morale of the community."

David Watt



The Ottawa eight—from left M Gaston Thorn (EEC), Mr Suzuki, Chancellor Schmidt, President Reagan, Mr Trudeau, M Mitterrand, Mrs Thatcher and Signor Spadolini: divided more or less on straight lines over East-West trade.

## Trade with Russia: is a deal possible?

The Ottawa summit might have been worse. The seven most powerful leaders in the western alliance have reassured their common purpose—or, to put it rather more frankly, six peppy gentlemen in late middle-age and one not exactly ductile lady, have succeeded in conversing together in a gigantic log cabin for 36 hours without quarrelling. Their communiqué, one of three or four versions of varying length and blandness, pre-cooked for some weeks ago by their "Sherpas" officials, successfully expresses the highest common factor between their various creeds of international virtue.

And this formula ("I believe in liberal trade policies, the reduction of inflation and unemployment, substantial (and in many cases growing) levels of official development assistance and a spirit of shared responsibility for ever and ever Amen") is, as we all know, quite impressive even though it is not necessarily a reliable guide to future conduct.

This outcome may not have been greeted with heartfelt sighs of relief in every western chancellery. Officials had feared that with so many of the summiters still in a state of post-accession self-righteousness, all underlying tensions of the alliance might be exposed in a disastrous outbreak of semi-public disagreement.

The various studies and meetings that have been set up—the meeting on trade protection next year, the consultations on Japanese trade, the negotiations with Opec about investment in developing countries and the meeting within the alliance on East-West trade—may or may not come to anything, but they have all had the immediate effect, by postponement, of taking the heat out of the most immediately contentious economic issues.

Of these the most potentially destructive is not the interest rate wrangle which has had all the attention. This is an irritant at present but will probably sort itself out in the natural course of events. Nor, though objectively deplorable, will failure to agree on a creative policy towards North-South questions cause more than a ripple of disquiet among the seven governments.

The real dynamite is the problem of East-West trade which is not only highly divisive in itself but raises many of the most dangerous arguments of

principle and strategy now threatening the unity of the West. Moreover, unlike the others, it is an issue over which Europe and the United States are divided on more or less straight lines. Even Mrs Thatcher's overflowing admiration for President Reagan's statesmanship and sagacity will not entirely outweigh the British interest in expansion of trade with the Soviet bloc.

Current American policy (reflected in President Reagan's attempt to put into the Ottawa communiqué a paragraph approving tougher restrictions on East-West trade) is the product of doctrinal conviction. It is a victory for hawkish in the White House and the Pentagon over doves in the State and Commerce Departments and non-political exporters in the American business community.

The debate in Washington has gone on for many years. From the outset of the Cold War until the mid-1960s, the United States traded with the block were right, mainly on the traditional American principle that in international relations friendship is friendship and enmity is enmity and you don't do business with your enemies.

In the latter part of Mr Lyndon Johnson's presidency this concept came under liberal attack and a strong campaign was mounted to sweep away these "relics of the Cold War". When the Nixon administration came in with its policy of trying to draw the Soviet Union into some kind of interdependence relationship with the West, the omens for further liberalization seemed good.

However, it was at this point that Dr Henry Kissinger and his theory of linkage came in. His view, as he recounts in his memoirs, was that "given Soviet needs, expanding trade without a quid pro quo was a gift, and hence he devised a strategy which was 'to use trade concessions as a political instrument, withholding them when Soviet conduct was adventurous and granting them in measured doses when the Soviets behaved cooperatively'".

In the period of détente in the early and mid-1970s this linkage was not particularly restrictive, but as the international scene darkened again, the logic required the doses to be cut down and when, in 1974, the Russians suddenly imposed an exit tax on Jewish

emigrants, the Congress passed the Jackson-Vanik amendment making the granting of most-favoured nation-status to the USSR dependent on increased emigration.

Under the Carter Administration, the "linkage" argument was compounded by the other main concern of the Americans—namely fear of the growing military potential of the USSR, which led to a widening of the concept of what are and are not defence-sensitive materials suitable for Russian possession.

In the past the sensible notion (reflected in the Nato-agreed index of prohibited exports) was that anything that might be directly contributory to defence—including certain sorts of computer—was forbidden. Now, however, the idea gained ground in Washington that almost any advanced technology would "help" the Soviet economy and therefore its warmaking potential. For example the American decision not to cooperate with the Russians in the development of the oil and gas fields in eastern Siberia was a result of this fear.

Mr Reagan's present violent objections to the West European gas-pipeline deal with the Russians has the same origin. The fear is not so much that the Germans and French will become excessively dependent on the Soviet Union for energy since, as Chancellor Schmidt points out, the Soviet gas will at most account for 5 to 6 per cent of German primary energy consumption in 1990 which is roughly the same percentage as Germany imports in oil from Libya.

What the Administration fears is the imperious wish such an enormous deal (£4,500m) will give to East-West trade. It will provide the Russians with the hard currency they need for technology imports from the West and will oblige the West's European nations to export more to the East to pay for the gas.

This is a very simplified account of an argument that has endless ramifications and technical byways, but it ought to be enough to make it clear that the United States now wishes to impose on the alliance what amounts to a policy of economic containment of the Soviet Union on the lines of the early 1950s.

It also indicates that the dangerous confrontation which was avoided at Ottawa by setting-up a special meeting

to discuss the question is still lying in wait for us since there is not the slightest possibility that the Europeans will accept either the American formulation or its application beyond the bounds of the present Nato list.

The German argument, echoed to a greater or less extent by most European governments, is, in the first place, that it is all very well for the Americans, whose trade with the Comecon countries is about a quarter of the EEC's, to take an ideological stand.

More fundamentally, however, the Germans claim that there is very scanty evidence so far that Soviet policies on a global scale have ever been made less opportunistic as a result of trade threats from the West, whereas there is some plausibility about the proposition that the growth of trade strengthens forces and individuals in the Eastern block with a stake in détente in Europe.

In other words, we are back here at the old tension between a geo-political and a regional view of the Soviet Union. The United States is prepared to risk the high probability that its European allies will suffer for nothing, for the sake of a faint chance that the global opponents will be deterred. The Europeans are not prepared to sacrifice what they see as their vital economic interests in order to secure a very problematical advantage on a worldwide scale.

The difficulty about this dispute is that it can be so easily turned into slogans—"The Europeans are going neutralist", "The Americans are going mad". The essence of the Atlantic alliance is the military connexion—the American nuclear umbrella and the European conventional defence of the American Glacis. What is at risk is the democratic consensus that sustains this bargain. If Nato were to collapse as a military entity, the economic links between Europe and the United States would survive—at least until the Russians marched in. If, on the other hand, the financial and political links are undermined, the military connexion is undermined as well.

There seems to be no way of solving the East-West trade problem (unless the Russians solve it for us by marching into Poland) except by some kind of compromise. The most important question left unanswered at Ottawa is whether such a compromise is possible.

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## How Labour's true voice gets distorted

by Ian Bradley

The resolutions submitted for this year's Labour Party conference are seen by many commentators as signifying a continuing leftward drift.

Certainly most of the 503 resolutions submitted by constituency parties and trade unions have a distinctly Bennite flavour. All those on the Labour Party constitution endorse the electoral college set up to elect the party's leader and deputy leader and call for further changes to bring both the manifesto and Labour MP's more firmly under the control of the party as a whole. Ninety-one resolutions have been submitted on disarmament, many of them unilateralist, and 53 on Northern Ireland, most calling for a long and winding bipartisan policy.

It would be wrong, however, to conclude that all these resolutions are the product of a new mood of left-wing radicalism in Labour constituency parties and among the trade unions. Many, in fact, have been drawn up not by the grassroots organizations which submitted them but by national pressure groups. Others, which have originated at local level, turn out on closer examination to be rather revolutionary than they first appear.

A number of the resolutions are couched in remarkably similar terms. For example, 19 constituency parties have submitted an identically worded motion on disarmament. It was actually drafted by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and circulated to about 160 local Labour parties which are affiliated to it. Resolutions by 18 other parties are based on this draft.

Several organizations circulate model motions during May and June, when local parties and trade unions are considering the resolution they will submit for the conference. The Bennite Campaign for Labour Party Democracy (CLPD) produced a special conference resolutions edition of its newsletter with model motions supporting the present electoral college composition.

One resolution on Northern Ireland which has attracted attention for its apparent radicalism is that submitted by the Bexleyheath Labour Party. After condemning the present bi-partisan policy and Mrs Thatcher's refusal to make concessions to the H-Block prisoners, it calls for the formation of a trade union-based mass Labour Party as an essential first step to the unity of Catholic and Protestant workers against the common enemy of Toryism and capitalism.

This resolution, No. 201 on the preliminary agenda, began life earlier this summer in the

mind of Mrs Sandra Mitchell. Feeling that there were no easy answers to the problems of Northern Ireland, that minor concessions to the prisoners might have prevented some of the violence of the last few months and that what is needed is "a socialist solution which united the working classes", she drafted her resolution and took it to a meeting of her local ward in June.

The meeting, attended by about 20 people, agreed to back the resolution after slight amendment and to submit it to the general management committee of the Bexleyheath party. The committee met on July 23 to decide between four resolutions for debate submitted by different wards. One deplored former Labour ministers writing memoirs which attacked their colleagues; another proposed that the police should have the right to strike and there was a call for the Ministry of Defence to be renamed the Ministry of Technology.

The committee selected Mrs Mitchell's resolution and also chose Mr Michael Rees, a lecturer, as the speaker for the conference. If, as seems likely, Northern Ireland is picked as a subject for debate at Brighton, he will go to the composing meeting with delegates from all other parties which have submitted motions on the subject.

The composing meetings take place on the Saturday immediately before the conference and will determine the final motions for debate. Regular attenders say these meetings are sometimes more exciting than the main debates and in the past year or so have become much more open, with constituency parties having a bigger say in the final motions.

Before the composing meetings, subjects for debate at the conference are chosen on the basis of the number of resolutions and amendments submitted. Already it seems safe to predict that certain resolutions will not find their way on to the Brighton agenda, among them the Small Heath constituency party for legalized state brothels, to help clean up the streets and minimize embarrassment to local residents, and the demand from the National Union of the Footwear and Leather Trades for the curbing of the export of "indigenous bovine and ovine raw materials".

That is a pity, for they, just as much as the resolutions on Northern Ireland, raise the concerns of ordinary grassroots socialists.

Mr Benn: His supporters produced a special edition of their newsletter with model motions supporting the present electoral college composition.

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## A choice at last, and it's Streep

The two-year saga of who will play the doomed lovers in the film version of *Soyuzdetfilm's Choice*, William Styron's acclaimed novel about a survivor of Auschwitz, has been settled at last. Meryl Streep, who has been in Britain recently filming *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, will play Sophie and Kevin Kline, star of the Broadway hit, *Pirates of Penzance*, will play Nathan.

Styron's novel was bought for approximately \$750,000 more than two years ago by Keith Barish, a multi-millionaire land developer, as his first move into films. He bought it for Alan Pakula, who directed *All The President's Men*. But until now Pakula could not make up his mind on casting. For the past 12 months he knew he wanted an unknown or Streep—but would not jump either way. For Nathan he wanted Al Pacino (but not bourgeois Jewish enough); Dustin Hoffman (but both sexes would not fall for him) or Robert de Niro (lacked humour).

Three weeks ago he went to see *Pirates* on Broadway and was "dazzled" by Kline's Pirate King. He had hardly got back to his office when Miss Streep's agent called with a message from her star. "Whether you choose me or not, Kevin Kline would make a marvellous Nathan."

If you have not read the book, a snippet to convey its marvellous character is Nathan's Jewish country club joke. In this Nathan assumes the voices of two characters who represent the two feuding aspects of the Jewish psyche. Shapiro, on first, is

## THE TIMES DIARY

It is not easy to accept that Beaufort Castle, a name redolent of the English countryside, lairs, and strawberry teas, is in fact a place of war on the border between Israel and Palestine, a stronghold regularly shelled by the Israelis. This well sited fortress, built on a rocky mountain ridge dominating the Litani river, has been fought over ever since the twelfth century.

It was captured in 1139 by Fulk of Anjou, who was King of Jerusalem long before Mr Begun's more enthusiastic supporters bestowed the title of his French knights lived there. So did culture and peace.

Through the centuries its stout stone walls stood up to everything hurled at them—rock, cannon balls, musketry fire. The topworks are somewhat battered now, but the main structure still holds out impressively against shells, bombs, rockets and machinegun fire. One can derive a strange pleasure, I am told, from seeing puffs of rifle smoke coming from archery slits in the ancient walls.

You can have him. I've don't want him WXYZ—I blackball the schmuck.

You will have noticed that I left out P.

**Dress rehearsal**

Kiri te Kanawa, the delectable New Zealand soprano who will sing for the royal couple at St Paul's next week, came tantalizingly close yesterday to revealing the second best kept secret of the royal wedding.

Miss te Kanawa, who assembled a select few admirers at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, to talk about her performance, nonchalantly kept her wedding-day dress, designed by Leonard of Paris, at the feet in a plastic bag. She said "It's wonderful and it's every colour you can think of. But it needs pressing so



I'm not going to show you any more than Lady Diana is."

The London hat maker Philip Somerville, a fellow New Zealander, has designed a hat to complement the dress but that, with the heart diamond earrings she will wear for her performance of Let the Bright Seraphim from Handel's *Crucifixion*, also remained undisclosed.

Miss te Kanawa, 34, mother of two, and member of the Royal Opera for 10 years, will start her day next Wednesday with a visit from the hair-dresser at 7 am before arriving at St Paul's for a first practice and warm-up with the choir at 9.15.

"Prince Charles chose the music," she said. "I haven't sung it for 15

years so, believe me I have been practising. It has just hit me today how nervous I am," said La Divina, a Maori beauty based on her side to the Victorian composer, Sir Arthur Sullivan.

One quibble: Miss te Kanawa says she has never sung in a hat before. But at Wednesday's performance of Don Giovanni I could swear she arrived on stage for her first scene with what looked like a bonnet, if not a fully fledged hat.

## Beating the drum

Sad news from Dartington, where I understand that bookings for this year's Music Summer School are so poor that two world premieres have been cancelled and performers are being asked to take a 20 per cent cut in fee.

The recession is blamed, but if I can help this lovely festival in any way with publicity I am delighted to do so. Not least because at the annual cricket match between performers and scholars three years ago I took the only hat-trick of my life: John Amis, who helps organize Dartington and is better known for his appearances on *Mr. Men*, on *Radio 4* and *Face the Music*, on television, was my third victim, and hasn't bought me a drink since.

Two premieres will still go ahead: Piers Maxwell Davis's *Bill Bunter*, which Julian Bream will play in the Great Hall tomorrow, and a piece for violin and piano by Soulima Stravinsky.

Dartington's attractions, apart from the music and beautiful Hall, include a swimming pool, the Carved Angel restaurant in Dartmouth and the Dart itself, one of the best picnic rivers in the country.

Peter Watson





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## LABOUR'S NAKED BRITAIN

So many extreme and unrealistic initiatives have come from the Labour Party's National Executive Committee in recent years that there may be a tendency for public opinion to become inured to further shocks. The policy statement on defence adopted by the NEC on Wednesday, despite objections from both Mr Foot and Mr Healey, provides a case in point. It might be dismissed with a shrug of the shoulders on the grounds that it seeks simply to confirm the position taken by the party at the Blackpool conference last October.

The extent to which the party espoused the unilateralist cause at Blackpool has been to some extent obscured by the fact that the conference also voted for multilateral disarmament. Many people seem to have assumed that the different resolutions cancelled each other out. That is not so. It is consistent for unilateralists to vote for a multilateral resolution on the basis that they favour disarmament all round. But it is not consistent for multilateralists to vote for a unilateral resolution because they do not believe that the West should disarm unless the Soviet Union is prepared to do so correspondingly. Labour voted at Blackpool in effect for multilateral disarmament if it was available, and for unilateral disarmament if it was not. That is to concede the unilateralist case.

Among the resolutions passed at the conference was a demand for a pledge in the next manifesto to "close all nuclear bases, British or American, on British soil or in British waters". It was this demand which the NEC was reaffirming on Wednesday. This would not matter if one could assume that this was the outpouring of a committee with an extremist majority which would then be overturned at this year's conference. But it would be facile optimism to make any such assumption.

As always, the overwhelming majority of votes at the conference will be cast by the trade unions. Traditionally,

the power of the union bosses, exercised through the block vote, has played a major part in keeping Labour on an even keel. It has not been democratic, but for years it was a pragmatic device because the union leaders had much the stronger grasp of reality than the average delegate from the constituency parties. But, in addition to being offensive in principle, the system has not worked so well recently for two reasons. Many leaders have not been in such secure control of their unions so that the application of union power has been less considered and less predictable. It has also become increasingly evident that politics does not have a consistently high place on most union leaders' list of priorities.

This is hardly surprising. They are busy men with onerous responsibilities for running their unions' affairs; and they were elected to their offices on their record in industrial rather than political matters. But the consequence is that the critical power in determining the policies of what is still the principal opposition party, and very possibly the next government, is wielded by men with no personal experience in defence and foreign affairs, and with many other things on their minds, who may have a decisive influence simply by being absent from a NEC meeting.

This is a recipe for national disaster. It would be quite wrong to imply that it is only on the left-wing of the Labour Party that the cause of unilateral nuclear disarmament has waxed once again. There has undeniably been a much more widespread resurgence both in this country and on the continent of Europe of the old fear of nuclear weapons. The demand that Britain should disassociate itself from nuclear activities and nuclear entanglements is fed from many sources. But there is no sign that such a demand is supported by the majority of the people of this country.

At the same time, there is no reason to suppose that the voters will regard this as the

most important issue at the next election. It is much more likely that the country's economic difficulties will have pride of place. So there is the distinct possibility that, because of the economic failings of the present Government, Labour may be returned to office at the next election with a defence policy which is not favoured by a majority of voters, but which would overturn the basis on which this country's security has been preserved for more than thirty years.

There is therefore an overriding national interest in the internal manoeuvrings within the Labour Party. Labour right-wingers may believe that if Mr Healey is re-elected as deputy leader, and if the balance of power on the NEC can be changed this year, then there would still be time enough next year to sort out the party's policies. But that is a very doubtful assumption. It cannot be taken for granted either that Mr Healey will be re-elected or that the left will at last be put in a minority on the NEC. Even if both these battles are won, it will still be difficult to get rid of a rash commitment on defence if it has been confirmed at this year's conference.

It is not as if Mr Foot would lead the struggle to change course: the policy is not Mr Benn's alone nor does it even owe its latest success to his personal advocacy. Mr Foot remains a unilateralist, even if he might prefer to push the issue out of sight for a while for the sake of party unity. A commitment made and endorsed by successive conferences, to which at the very least the party leader did not personally object, would be difficult to reverse in the run-up towards an election. That is why it is becoming increasingly urgent for some leading figure within the party to put his personal standing at risk by leading a full-scale battle on this issue: "fight, and fight, and fight again" not just for the party that he loves, but for the country to which he owes a deeper obligation.

## THE STATISTICS OF LIFE AND HOPE

Each year, 2,000 otherwise healthy people in Britain suffer terminal kidney failure. Without a kidney transplant, or regular dialysis to clean their blood artificially, all of them would die within a short time. With treatment, many can reasonably hope to live 20 years or more; the mean survival rate is about 10 years. Treatment has been available for more than a decade now, but the total number of patients now being kept alive by dialysis or transplant in Britain amounts to 6,600, the equivalent of only three years' now patients. Yet in Europe the proportions of survivors in the population is much higher: in Italy it is half as large again, and in Switzerland more than twice as large. Europe is improving more rapidly, too: Austria and Spain have overtaken us since 1978. The United States does even better than Europe.

Doctors disagree strongly as to why this should be so. Today the British Medical Journal prints a survey seeking to show that no patients were being denied it because of NHS spending constraints, along with a leading article disputing the survey's conclusions. The controversy is one of medical ethics and also of politics, because of the Government's statutory duty to "provide or secure the effective provision" of medical services. Last year The Minister of State for Health, a doctor as well as a politician, said that in future patients waiting for kidney transplants would not be put at risk because of lack of money in the NHS. But Dr Vaughan's qualified promise begged many questions. Matters are less clear-cut than that.

Treatment for kidney failure is a costly procedure. There is no formal administrative restriction on the freedom of doctors to offer it wherever they consider it worthwhile. But all of them are aware, and increasingly so, that clinical decisions have budgetary consequences. It is right that they should do so. There is wide room for the exercise of judgement in deciding which patients have a sufficiently good chance of benefitting from treatments which can be risky and exacting for the patient, quite apart from questions of expense. It may strike a chill to see the BMJ survey citing among the reasons for denial of treatment such factors as: "Blind", "separated from his wife and family", and even "uncooperative patient" — yet it would be as hard to say in principle that such considerations should be excluded from the decision.

But in practice it is clear from the statistics that hundreds of people a year are dying of kidney disease in Britain who would receive successful treatment in most other developed countries. That is not acceptable, and especially not because some of the reasons for having nothing to do with financial constraints. It is possible to argue that the British rate of treatment is more nearly right than it is in some countries which suffer more than we do from the disease of concentration on extravagant medical technology at the expense of less dramatic kinds of medicine. In the USA, certainly, the quality of life of many dialysis patients in hospital is extremely low. There, the average age of new patients

accepted for treatment is well over 50, which may be too high. But Britain's average of under 40, with a virtual ban on any new patients over 50, is certainly too low. It condemns to death too many with a demonstrably good chance of survival in good health.

Although it is among the more expensive of hospital procedures, treatment for renal failure is far from the top of the price-list. A heart transplant, for instance, costs more than three kidney transplants. Unlike some costly treatments for cancers which develop mainly in patients in their 60s and 70s, these procedures can save people with many productive years ahead of them, including parents of young families. Its value in human terms warrants a larger share of NHS resources.

But what is needed most is not publicity-stunt purchases of kidney machines which then may be idle because they cost more to run than buy. The need is for more acceptance of transplantation. A patient on dialysis, an exacting procedure, costs £8,000 every year he survives, while a transplant patient costs £5,000 once and for all, with luck. Britain lags woefully in its use of transplants, and did so even before last year's disastrous Panorama scare. Too many doctors in charge of dying patients neglect to consider the possibility of transplantation, more through shyness towards relatives than through doubts about the criteria for diagnosing death. A change of attitudes among the public, and in the profession, could do as much to help kidney patients as a hefty addition to the relevant budgets.

## Air crash inquiries

From Mr Peter Martin

Sir, In your third leader today (July 21) you recommend that some kind of international body should be created to investigate aircraft accidents. It is interesting to note that as long ago as 1961 the Committee on Civil Aircraft Accident Investigation (the Cairns Committee) heard from the chief inspector of accidents of the day that there would be advantage in an international accidents investigation branch under the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) which could take over the inquiry into major accidents wherever they occur. But the chief inspector pointed out that this would require states to surrender sovereignty to a degree

that made the proposal unlikely to be generally acceptable. Nothing has changed since then and, although the Cairns committee suggested it might be profitable to explore, through ICAO, the advantages of setting up an international organisation to be available to assist states on request, no such organisation has been created.

What has happened in the intervening years, however, is that cooperation between the greater number of states is better now than it was then. Countries with poor facilities for accidents investigation regularly call upon countries with better ones to help them. But there are certain states whose nationalism is such that they are unable to distinguish self-interest from the interests of aviation safety generally. To meet this problem of self-

interest annex 13, the international standards and recommended practices relating to accidents investigation, has been amended to permit a minority or dissenting report by the representative of a state dissatisfied with the report of the investigating state. This is what has happened in the Tenerife case and is certainly a safeguard of an important kind which represents a significant throw into the earlier absolute sovereignty of the state in which the accident occurred. I doubt whether we shall ever achieve supra-nationalism in this area, but much has been done quietly and effectively at ICAO during the past few years.

Yours truly,  
PETER MARTIN,  
Frere Cholmeley,  
28 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

## Honeymoon on the Rock

From Mrs Barbara de la Borbolla

Sir, It was with dismay that I heard that the royal couple were to call at Gibraltar on their honeymoon. Having lived in Spain for very many years, I would never underestimate the strength of Spanish feeling on the subject of the Rock.

With the advent of their democracy, albeit a shaky one, Spaniards can now vent their feelings in public, and there are almost as many shades of political opinion as there are Spaniards; yet there is one thing that unites them almost to a man and that is their sense of outrage at the continued presence of the British on the Rock.

It seems strange, therefore, that our Foreign Office can have so misread the mood as to take a decision which has provoked, and at a crucial point in Anglo-Spanish negotiations, a reaction that should have been completely predictable.

The absence of King Juan Carlos and his family at the wedding is unlikely to have any long-term adverse effect. The worsening of Anglo-Spanish relations, however, could have far-reaching repercussions.

Yours faithfully,  
BARBARA DE LA BORBOLLA,  
The White Cottage,  
Croft Lane,  
Leitchford,  
Hertfordshire,  
July 22.

From Mr Richard Cohen  
Sir, Is Spain's possession of Ceuta in Morocco any more justifiable than Britain's claim to Gibraltar? Perhaps the Spanish Ambassador would care to comment.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD COHEN,  
30 Mount Pleasant Road,  
Chigwell,  
Essex,  
July 22.

From Sir Arthur Bryant, CH  
Sir, If the presence of Spain's fine young King and Queen at next week's royal wedding is unfortunately prevented by the memory of our 268 year old occupation of Gibraltar, that ocean rock which enabled us to preserve the freedom of the world's seas and, during Spain's War of Independence, to assist her brave people to throw off the hated yoke of Napoleon's armies, might not both historical justice and patriotic susceptibilities on the British side of the Biscay Bay be assuaged initially by a gracious apology from Spain for having, admittedly some time ago and unsuccessfully, sent an invincible Armada against us to extinguish our national independence?

Yours faithfully,  
ARTHUR BRYANT,  
The Close,  
Salisbury,  
July 22.

From Mr S. J. Blenkinsop  
Sir, Is it mere coincidence that July 29 is also the 353rd anniversary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada?

Yours faithfully,  
STANLEY J. BLENKINSOP,  
57 Macclesfield Road,  
Willeslow, Cheshire,  
July 23.

From Mr L. J. Bromley  
Sir, The underlying proposition in your leading article on July 23 is that nothing should be done to upset the Spanish people about Gibraltar while negotiations proceed. It follows, from your proposition that Gibraltar is to be out of bounds to the Royal Family until some agreement is reached.

For my part I decline to accept such a conclusion.  
Yours faithfully,  
L. J. BROMLEY,  
106 Queen Elizabeth's Drive,  
Southgate, N.14.

## Terms for democracy

From Mr Tom Ellis, MP for Wrexham (Social Democrat)  
Sir, My parliamentary colleagues, Tim Rathbone and Nigel Fisher, were right to call (July 22) for "the introduction of more proportionate elections to the House of Commons". The time has come, however, when they might better have gone further because the British people already accept the need for reform.

Now that two parties likely to be in alliance with each other and both committed to electoral reform might form a government in two or three years, it is time to consider which system of proportional representation to adopt. This is not the arcane choice best left for experts to squabble over that it might seem.

Two systems appear to be broadly acceptable: the "topping-up" system and the "multi-member" system. The actual choice will, eventually, I suspect, be made according to the criterion of whose interest is best served by the reform.

From the point of view of the MP the topping-up system commands itself; from the voter's point of view or, in other words, for democracy's sake, a multi-member system is incomparably better.

What causes concern is to hear people openly admit that the choice must be that of a topping-up system because "it is the only thing MPs will be prepared to accept".

## Even-handedness in Middle East crisis

From Lord Chelwood

Sir, Mr Brezinski does not exaggerate when he writes (feature, July 21) that unless America responds urgently to the Soviet challenge in the Gulf, her influence there will dissolve and her European allies be dealt "a potentially fatal blow".

It is also true that any hope of mounting a collective response to the Soviet threat by the West and friendly Arab countries jointly is bedevilled by the Arab-Israeli dispute, which has escalated so dangerously. But how can he leave "the rights and wrongs" of the dispute out of an otherwise penetrating assessment of America's present dilemma? Surely it is precisely because successive American administrations have done just this ever since Palestine was partitioned that the situation is now as critical as it is unjust.

King Hussein underlined Arab anger and disillusionment with American policy when he recently reminded the President that friendship with Israel carries several obligations. Yet under intense pressure from the well orchestrated Zionist lobby the new American Government has gone so far in the "Israel right or wrong" direction that the Israeli settlements on the West Bank are no longer denounced as illegal.

As you emphasised in your editorial of the same day, America holds the only key to peace in the Middle East. It is her failure to be even-handed that has taken the impetus out of the European Community's Venice Declaration, which stresses the equal rights of both sides: of Israel to enjoy security within the 1967 ceasefire line, and of the Palestinian people to self-determination in what remains of their own country.

## Iranian Embassy siege

From the Editor of Independent Television News

Sir, It is time to correct a wrong impression which is fast becoming accepted as a result of a passage in Dr. Richard Clutterbuck's interesting book, *The Media and Political Violence* (review, July 16). Dr. Clutterbuck says that, expressly against the police's request, ITN sent a camera team into a flat overlooking the back of the Iran Embassy which, as everybody now knows, was later to show pictures of the SAS abseiling into action.

Let us be clear. The police made no such specific request. On day three of the six-day siege ITN, in common with other news organizations, received a memorandum from the Metropolitan Police seeking "cooperation in refraining from publishing or broadcasting details of the deployment of personnel in the immediate vicinity of the Embassy or the use of specialist equipment."

I immediately issued a notice to all staff, which stated: "It is ITN policy to comply with this specific request."

The rear-view camera was put in place on day six. The technical linking arrangements would have required no fewer than three

Until America makes this the basis of a just and balanced policy towards the Arab-Israeli dispute, Soviet influence will continue to grow in the Middle East. Mr Brezinski's warning of "the destruction of the entire post-World War II American-built international system" and even the transformation of Western Europe into "a Soviet dependency" cannot be dismissed as fanciful or alarmist.

Yours sincerely,  
CHELWOOD,  
Barons Court,  
London of Lords,  
July 22.

From Mr R. K. Stephany  
Sir, I do not support the use of violence by one country against the unarmed citizens of another, whatever the reason, and I would have thought that you would have been of the same view. I was therefore alarmed to read in your leader of July 21, "The PLO have, in a number of notorious incidents, murdered Israeli civilians, but that does not give the Israelis the right to kill and maim civilians in return."

How can you write-off the PLO activities inside and outside Israel as "a number of notorious incidents"? It is a clear case of applying double standards. The only other explanation is that you are suggesting that murdering is acceptable and killing and maiming is acceptable or that Israeli families do not qualify as civilians.

Yours faithfully,  
R. K. STEPHANY,  
7 Wentworth Hall,  
The Ridgeway,  
Mill Hill, NW7,  
July 21.

editorial decisions before the signal from the rear-view camera could be plugged through to transmission. There was absolutely no way those pictures could have got on the screen "accidentally".

On previous days journalists had seen various activities on the roof. But in line with the request not to show "details of deployment of personnel", no such footage was ever transmitted.

It might interest people to know that on day three of the siege, ITN was approached in turn by the Metropolitan Police, the Home Office and the Ministry of Defence, each with a particular request asking us not to broadcast certain information and in each case we complied.

On May 6, I received a note from Scotland Yard's Director of Information which asked me to write to thank you for your cooperation in exercising restraint and patience in your coverage of the Iranian Embassy siege.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID NICHOLAS,  
Independent Television News Limited,  
ITN House,  
43 Wells Street, W1,  
July 17.

## Moorland conservation

From Mr Malcolm MacEwen

Sir, It is still not too late for the Government to respond positively to the criticisms of its "policy" for moorland conservation, before the Wildlife and Countryside Bill becomes law. Robin Grove-White (July 10 feature) has exposed the fallacy of the Government's view that the problem is confined to Exmoor. But its view that management agreements on the Exmoor model provide the solution of the problem is equally fallacious.

The Government's confidence in the Exmoor scheme rests on so much on management agreements actually concluded — of which there are only two — as on the financial guidelines agreed earlier this year by the Exmoor National Park Committee (of which I was then a member), the Country Landowners' Association and the National Farmers' Union. The guidelines will be successful, with a bit of luck, in persuading landowners and farmers voluntarily to conclude management agreements for some years to come. But they will be of little use where the problem is peculiar to Exmoor.

The terms are attractive to farmers. They offer annual payments at standard rates, indexed against the profitability of sheep farming, and income (without working) that is not less than the profit that might have been made by reclamation. The Government

pays 90 per cent of the cost — although only up to £45,000 a year. Farming opinion in Exmoor is behind the guidelines, which are seen as the last hope of avoiding some form of control after 20 years of raging controversy, three parliamentary Acts or Bills and the Porchester inquiry.

Government departments and agencies took part in the negotiation of the Exmoor guidelines, which are therefore seen as a model for compensation elsewhere in the absence of any statutory provision. If the Government's guidance on compensation, to be issued under clause 39, follows the Exmoor model conservation will be prohibitively expensive. The clause requires local planning authorities to pay compensation calculated in accordance with the guidance whenever the Minister of Agriculture withholds grant for an improvement that would (in his view) adversely affect natural beauty or amenity.

The principle itself is entirely wrong, but in any case there is no sign that government will provide the funds required to implement it. On the contrary, ministers refused during the committee stage of the Bill to extend 90 per cent grants beyond Exmoor. And farmers are looking ahead, whatever the circumstances.

Yours faithfully,  
MALCOLM MACEWEN,  
Manor House,  
Wootton Courtenay,  
Mineshead,  
Somerset.

## VAT on repairs

From Mr M. J. Heppell

Sir, The Rev Richard Hayes (July 14) has drawn your attention to a very serious obstacle to the encouragement of private owners of historic buildings in carrying out repairs. In the City of York we have operated for over 15 years a scheme in partnership with the Department of the Environment to assist by offering grant aid to the owners of historic buildings towards carrying out repairs. This scheme recognizes the higher costs in carrying out this type of specialized work and ensures that a high quality of workmanship is achieved.

In spite of the success of the scheme since its inception in providing a financial incentive to over 250 property owners to put their buildings into a sound and well restored condition, the amount of grant aid available annually is now inadequate to meet the ever increasing demands. The allocation of funds set aside by the Department of the Environment, the city council and the county council for this scheme has generously been increased each year to take account of inflation, but to an extent the

benefits of this increase have largely been negated by the crippling VAT at a rate of 15 per cent. Without this tax it is estimated that in York some three or four extra buildings per year could have been repaired with grant aid.

I therefore share the concern of your correspondent in requesting the Government to remove the burden of paying VAT for restoration and repair work, but would go further and say that if the Secretary of State for the Environment is really determined to preserve the character of historic towns and villages in this country, he must pursue a policy of encouraging those property owners who are willing to restore and repair their buildings to ensure that their limited funds are directed towards the actual building work, rather than being diluted by a tax which is providing a positive disincentive to this aspect of conservation.

Yours truly,  
MALCOLM HEPELLE, Chairman,  
Development Services Committee,  
York City Council,  
The Guildhall,  
York,  
July 16.

## A living memorial to human ideals

From Mr Robert Jackson, MEP for Upper Thames (Conservative) and others

Sir, In the last days of her life, Barbara Ward, Baroness Jackson of Lodsworth, told some of her family and close friends that she wished any tribute to her to be in a form that would enable others to continue the work to which she had devoted her life.

In accordance with this wish, her family, friends, admirers and associates are planning an appeal to establish a Barbara Ward Fund. This will be used to continue and extend her lifelong work for the betterment of the poorer majority of mankind and the preservation of the environment of this small planet, which for the last 10 years had been carried out mainly through the International Institute for Environment and Development under her presidency.

Further details of the appeal and a full list of the international committee launching it will be available shortly from the IIED, 10 Percy Street, London W1P 0DR.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT JACKSON ROBERT O. ANDERSON  
WILLY BRANDT JAMES CALLAGHAN  
WILLIAM CLARK EDWARD BEATH  
ROY JENKINS IAN MACGREGOR  
ROBERT S. MUMFORD SAURO OKITA  
SHRIDATH RAMPAUL MAURICE STRONG  
PIERRE TRUDEAU SHIRLEY WILLIAMS  
The Pound House,  
Lodsworth,  
West Sussex.

## Oral history

From Professor N. Kurti, FRs

Sir, May I comment on the correspondence about oral history and sound archives admirably reviewed on June 27 by Mr David Lance of the Imperial War Museum? One aspect seems to have been overlooked, namely the destruction of material recorded for radio programmes but not used. Thus, to prepare the excellent "Portrait of Lord Flory" the BBC recorded the reminiscences of many of Flory's friends and colleagues, but, as usual and understandable, only a small fraction of the material was used in the programme and the rest was discarded and, presumably, destroyed.

As member and later chairman of the Royal Society-Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts Committee, I think that Technological Records I initiated discussions with the BBC in 1969 and again in 1974 in the hope that this situation may be remedied. In view of the increasing interest in oral history I should like to reiterate our plea that the unused tapes of sound recordings made for radio programmes be offered to appropriate learned societies or sound archives or perhaps to the originators. It is true that re-assembling a large number of "off-cuts" might involve the recipients in considerable effort but they would, I think, accept this drawback if as a result they acquired some valuable material for their archives.

Yours faithfully,  
N. KURTI,  
University of Oxford Department of Engineering Science,  
Parks Road, Oxford,  
July 21.

## Young unemployed

From Mr Norman Felz

Sir, Seven weeks ago my company received an acknowledgment from the Youth Opportunities Programme of our request to sponsor a young person in work.

In view of the substantial sums of public money currently being spent on advertising this scheme and on advertising conditions among the young unemployed, we inquired about the reasons for the delay in processing our application. This I was told was caused by the large response from prospective sponsors, all of whom have to be interviewed before a young person is placed with them, and because the number of staff is inadequate to deal with the applications and cannot be increased because of the cut-back in expenditure.

Surely in this case the economies are self-defeating, and palpably absurd.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
NORMAN FELZ,  
Vanguard Limited,  
221 Deansboro Road,  
Edgware,  
Middlesex.

## Gift of tongues

From Mr M. E. Everist

Sir, In response to Mr R. G. W. Caldicott's language problems (July 17), I claim no less a linguist. On research in Cambridge I saw instructions to "keep off the grass" in King's College (two languages) and notices to the effect that St John's College was "closed to visitors (four languages)". On my return to Oxford, I was dismayed to see that Trinity College was also closed to visitors (hand written, in over half a dozen languages of which the most legible was Russian).

Yours faithfully,  
MARK E. EVERIST,  
Kable College,  
Oxford,  
July 17.

## Unconcealed delight

From Mrs Olive Haig

Sir, As one who has much pleasure from television in watching athletics, Rugby football and cricket, I feel I must write today to say what a joy it was to watch Ian Botham looking and playing like a cricketer, scoring 145 not out, unencumbered by ironmongery worn by most of the rest of the team. Might they not see the ball better if they were not so cluttered up?

Yours faithfully,  
OLIVE HAIG,  
Norfolk Cottage, Eversley,  
Basingstoke, Hampshire.







Cricket

# ICC respect governmental wishes and keep South Africa out

By John Woodcock  
Cricket Correspondent

The delegates of the South African Cricket Union, the multi-racial governing body of the game in South Africa, headed by their Indian president, Mr. Ravi Prasad, were delivered the almost inevitable message by the International Cricket Conference at Lord's this week: "Much as we welcome you back to the game, at the moment, practicable to do so." The words, however, were the sporting answer would be "yes," the cricketing bodies have a mandate to respect the wishes of their own countries.

Just how little influence West Indian cricket, for example, have upon any of the proposals shown in Bridgetown last winter while the meetings were in process, which decided whether or not the England tour should be allowed to continue. Like the management of the England team, the West Indian cricket authorities took no part in the discussions.

At last year's meeting of the ICC, South Africa were asked to make a written submission putting their case for readmission. This they did, and the decision was taken, as well, with a letter from Mr. P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, undertaking to introduce legislation to exclude sporting events from the application of three laws considered to infringe the anti-

apathy of sporting bodies to organize multi-racial sport." These are the Liquor Act, the Group Areas Act, and the Urban Areas Consolidation Act. He also gave his assurance "that any cricket team invited to South Africa by the SACU from any country abroad would be most welcome."

But it is no good, South Africa is more likely to find themselves playing cricket again as the result of the split in the sporting world that could follow the meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government in Melbourne this autumn.

The constitution of the ICC does not, in fact, allow for South Africa, or any other country, to have a say in the appointment of its members. They need to be proposed and seconded, and in spirit of having done all that England asked for, the South African cricket authorities have been elected to the membership.

At last year's meeting of the ICC, South Africa were asked to make a written submission putting their case for readmission. This they did, and the decision was taken, as well, with a letter from Mr. P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister, undertaking to introduce legislation to exclude sporting events from the application of three laws considered to infringe the anti-

group. As happened in Australia, with World Series Cricket, the world's leading cricket body might be tempted to ignore the wishes of the money on offer.

With regard to sanctions being imposed on individual cricketers (as with Gwynne and Rostbushman) the ICC were unanimous in their agreement that selection of teams must be a matter entirely for the governing bodies concerned. They also deplored "any move to impose sanctions upon cricketers as a result of actions taken by other autonomous sporting bodies."

In other words, it would be quite wrong for West Indies to withdraw their invitation to New Zealand to tour in the early next year, on account of New Zealand's decision to play host to the Springboks.

On cricketers, there was a heavy weight of opinion that they should not be treated as individuals but as a team. But no unanimity as to what to do about it, other than asking competing sides to play at a neutral venue.

In future, more neutral observers will be seen at Test matches: no such representative team to be in the present series. At Lord's this week a neutral observer of cricket might well have thought that a political observer was what was wanted.



Davidson: century contained power and authority.

## Davidson adds to the hazards of Surrey's preparation

By Richard Streeton

**THE OVAL:** Leicestershire have scored 158 for 5 wickets against Surrey.

An innings of rare power and authority by Brian Davidson brought a measure of compensation yesterday as this second round National Westminster Bank trophy match was disrupted by the weather. Davidson, a red-headed, portly man, was a poor start by Leicestershire, who with 17 overs of their innings left looked to be well-placed to take the match.

Davidson had faced only 112 balls when black thundery clouds rumbled around the ground and to avoid a heavy rain, the match was suspended.

cover against Clarke though he was a bit lucky. A single which brought him another four off Jackson through the vacant third slip position.

After lunch Davidson put the first of his sixes when he drove Jackson over extra cover. Another six came over long off against Knight before he reached 50 out of 58 in 10 overs. Balderstone drove his bat to guide before Davidson's only mistake came. He was 57 when a technical chance was put down at cover by Roope who did well to parry a ferocious shot against Thomas. Next over Roope took a good catch at second slip to dismiss Knight.

Tolchard survived a stumping chance against Pocock before he was out when he played a ball off to his foot from where it rebounded into the stumps. Garnham with some neat strokes gave Davidson his best support as he approached his century.

## French and Hadlee counter Underwood's deadly threat

By Peter Marson

**CANTERBURY:** Nottinghamshire beat Kent by four wickets.

A rugged, resourceful partnership by French and Hadlee secured victory in this NatWest Trophy match with 21 balls to spare. Stroke for stroke and step by step they edged Nottinghamshire forward with an unbeaten stand of 77 for the seventh wicket.

As on Wednesday, angry clouds hustled about by strong winds, instilled the same doubts at the day's start. A few scattered showers resumed with Nottinghamshire requiring another 134 runs to win from 52 overs. Judging from the earlier day's play, around the ground's vantage points, Kent were favourites to win.

Todd had played with some conviction even as the light faded on Wednesday evening, but he had time on his side. A late start yesterday before a downpour lifted his off stump as he made to drive. That was in the morning, but he was not to be troubled by a second ball, and this was more painful than the first.

## Greig has the last word

By Peter Marson

**BIRMINGHAM:** Sussex beat Warwickshire by 124 runs.

Sussex took over 23 minutes and 35 balls to complete their expected victory in the NatWest Trophy match against Warwickshire which was interrupted by rain on Wednesday. Greig mopped up the tail with three wickets for six runs in 2.5 overs as Sussex got home with 2.1 overs to spare.

La Rose, who also scored 52, was the man of the match award, but this was a fine all-round performance by Sussex.

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## Marsh bowls out Scotland

By Peter Marson

**GLASGOW:** The Australians beat Scotland by 10 runs.

The Australians' wicketkeeper, Rodney Marsh, bowled them to victory over Scotland at Lilwood yesterday by taking three wickets for no runs in the last over of the match.

Scotland needed 14 runs to win the 30-over contest when Marsh, in the third over, took three wickets in four balls and the only runs that came from the over were extras.

Rain prevented play before lunch and in their reduced number of overs the Australians managed to score 135 for five after losing only three wickets for 49. Only the reserve wicketkeeper, Rixon, and Chappell had a worthwhile stand, adding 53 for the seventh wicket.

## Corbett elected

By Peter Marson

The comedian, Ronnie Corbett, has been appointed president-elect of the Lord's Taverners, in succession to Sir Harry Secombe.

Corbett, a member of the Taverners for over 10 years, takes his post on January 1 next year.

**SCHOOL MATCH:** St Boniface's Colchester 92-6; St Mary's St 50-4.

Golf

## Darcy learns from his mistakes last week

By Peter Marson

**From Mitchell Platt's**  
Wassenaar, July 23  
Eamon Darcy, of Ireland, finished in a remarkable effort. Even more remarkable was the fact that on this, his first round in the £40,000 Dutch Open, sponsored by KLM, he was in the lead.

The 26-year-old Darcy, who is a stockbroker and one of 10 children, but his education, and he has a degree in business administration, was a surprise.

He has twice won the Mexican Amateur championship and he won the Canadian Amateur in 1979. His career today, when he made five birdies and he missed four other chances from inside 10 feet suggests he has a bright future in the professional game.

Similar sentiments have been expressed about Darcy. He won the Swiss Open 21 months ago and he seemed to confirm his progress by taking the South African Masters title earlier this year. This time, however, he has struggled in Europe but he has worked on getting a better turn out by the Ryder Cup.

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group. As happened in Australia, with World Series Cricket, the world's leading cricket body might be tempted to ignore the wishes of the money on offer.

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In other words, it would be quite wrong for West Indies to withdraw their invitation to New Zealand to tour in the early next year, on account of New Zealand's decision to play host to the Springboks.

On cricketers, there was a heavy weight of opinion that they should not be treated as individuals but as a team. But no unanimity as to what to do about it, other than asking competing sides to play at a neutral venue.

## Now Faldo knows where he must aim

By John Hennessey

**Golf Correspondent**  
One unexpected bonus arising from Bernhard Langer's second place finish in the Open golf championship last Sunday is that we shall be seeing more of Mick Faldo in the next few months.

Until last week Faldo stood in danger of falling to the second tier of the game. He had finished in the top 60 in the United States and so earned automatic exemption from qualifying for all American tournaments next year. Now he is forced, like the rest of the field, to look for a way to make the cut.

Faldo's tactics may change as the season progresses, but it seems clear that he will leave the American tour to look after himself. He has already won the British Open and the Open de France, and he is a natural contender for the Claret Cup.

Now, apart from the World Series tournament at Akron, Ohio, Faldo will be competing in the first three of the European order as at Sunday night—he will expect to be in the Ryder Cup team gives him a number of exemptions of the kind that he has won before. He has won the Claret Cup and the PGA championships and probably the world match-play tournament at Wentworth in October.

In fact, only two players from outside the top 100 in the world are expected to qualify for the World Series with a colossal first prize of \$100,000, as Norman is ineligible from this part of the world. He has won the Claret Cup and the PGA championships and probably the world match-play tournament at Wentworth in October.

## French experience pays dividends in the rain

By Lewine Mair

As anticipated, France headed the qualifiers by the proverbial mile in the European Ladies' Amateur championship over the West Course, Wentworth. Where most of the competitors found it difficult to settle to their game, the French women, including the rain, waterlogged greens and interrupted play, the French continued with all the calm one might expect of a team of experienced players.

France's 10-round aggregate for these two days was 738, while that of the runners-up, England, was 743. France finished seventh and eighth, and just qualifying for the final of the tournament, which was held at the Wentworth Club.

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## Broad is the only seeded survivor

By Peter Marson

The former Glamorgan champion Robert Broad is the only seeded player, through to the quarter-finals of the Welsh Amateur championship at Royal Portcawl. Four seeds, including the defending champion, David Stevens, were beaten yesterday and the trophy is certain to have a new name on it this year.

The former title holder, David McLean, of Holyhead, was beaten on the last green by Cardiff's Andrew Morgan, who sank a putt of more than 20 feet to secure his place in the last eight. The other two seeds, Terry Williams, the 1979 champion, and John Roger Jones, a member of the Welsh side in the recent European championships.

## Gilford wins

By Peter Marson

David Gilford, aged 15, won the Welsh Amateur trophy at Royal Portcawl in atrocious conditions yesterday. Gilford, of Tremham, has achieved a unique double of the Claret Cup and the Welsh Amateur trophy in the same year.

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Tennis

## Newly promoted Yorkshire team show impressive form

By Rex Bellamy

**Tennis Correspondent**  
There have been three extraordinary features about the progress of group one in the inter-county championships, sponsored by the Prudential Assurance Company, at Eastbourne. One has been the impressive form in the women's event, of the newly promoted Yorkshire teams, who have won the title only three times between them in 70 years.

A second has been the recurrent rain (it is not supposed to rain during "County Week"), and the third is the fact that the courts and the weather were good enough to permit play throughout yesterday afternoon.

Play began four hours late on Tuesday, six hours late on Wednesday, and three hours late yesterday. The event must be extended to tomorrow in order to use the loose ends. It says much for the courts and the four-man ground staff (all under 37) that play was possible yesterday.

kind of drying breezes that, even in an era of mechanical driers, are always welcome on "washdays".

The Yorkshire women's team's average age of 19 advanced to 21 when they were reinforced by Susan Mappin for yesterday's tough match with Surrey, champions 36 times. Miss Mappin, a former Wightman Cup doubles specialist who is now the women's national training officer, was named four Sheffield women in Yorkshire's team of six yesterday.

This critical contest was poised at 3-3 with three to play when rain stopped play. Later, the teams had a change to resume but Yorkshire were willing to take a risk with the damp courts. Surrey were not. Kent and Devon were also in the women's title hunt.

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## Rugby League

By Keith Macklin

Rugby League in Britain this season has been played under International Board rules. These amendments are designed to give worldwide standardization to the 13-side game and the main changes are that the hooker will now be blind with arms over the shoulders of the props, the loose forward can detach from the scrum at all times, the attacking team shall have the loose half and the defending team the rest.

Other international rules to be applied include allowing forwards to push once the scrum has been formed, releasing the non-tackling scrum half from keeping his hand on the rear-most forward and allowing a choice of a tap penalty or kick for touch from a different penalty. Ball mauling is allowed until a tackle has been completed, the yellow card will be applied for scrumming and if the ball makes contact with the referee a scrum will be formed only if all referees are satisfied that the scrum has been irregularly affected.

## A different ball game

By Keith Macklin

The Australian Board of Control have asked the International Board to convene a meeting to discuss the game at international level after a disastrous tour of Australia by the New Zealand all-stars. The International Board have reaffirmed the ban on poaching players and accepted the concept of neutrality for referees.


Special meeting: An Australian Rugby League representative, which Arthurson, said after the international Board's inaugural session: "The French's performance during their New Zealand-Australia tour is of great concern to us." Reuter reports from Port Moresby, that the Australian Board will meet in the not too distant future to hopefully work before the start of our season with a view to discussing all aspects of Rugby League.

## My sore toes can't be athlete's foot.

The only games I play you couldn't print.

You can get athlete's foot by standing still. Particularly if your feet sweat. It's a name that covers a common foot complaint that could show as peeling skin, cracking or soreness. Mycil ointment can get rid of it. Mycil powder used daily can prevent it recurring. Mycil. For non-athletes feet.











## Companies turn to foreign makes

By Peter Waymark

A new survey of the company car market shows that while Ford has maintained its traditional dominance, foreign cars are taking a much greater share than they were three years ago.

The survey, covering 1,081 companies and nearly 95,000 cars, found that more than half the companies had at least one foreign model in their fleet, compared with only 23 per cent in a similar survey in 1978.

Foreign importers have had particular success among senior management — accounting for 17 per cent of the total, against 2 per cent in 1978 — and directors of companies, one quarter of whom are now driving foreign makes.

The survey was conducted in December last year by *Company Secretary's Review*, a newsletter which goes to 8,500 companies, and the findings are published by Tolley Publishing, a subsidiary of Benn Brothers, at £15.

The most popular models for representatives were still the Ford Cortina (39 per cent) and Escort (17.5 per cent). BL's weakness in this sector is underlined by its main contender, the Marina/ital, accounting for only 4.4 per cent.

The Cortina was by far the most favoured car for middle management, taking 48.6 per cent. The Vauxhall Cavalier came second, but with only 6.3 per cent, and the Ford Granada third with 4.7 per cent.

Senior managers also favoured the Cortina (26.1 per cent), with the Granada (15.8 per cent). BL made a stronger showing in this category, the Princess taking 7.4 per cent and the Rover 4.5 per cent.

For directors of companies, the Granada was the most popular choice (18.5 per cent), followed by the Rover (16 per cent) and the Jaguar (9.9 per cent). The leading foreign makes in this sector were BMW and Audi from Germany and the Swedish Volvo.

The survey found that, in 84 per cent of companies, directors were able to choose any make or model of car within a specified price range.



Last inspection: Pony cars lining up for Britain

## UK hurdle for Pony cars

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Hyundai, the South Korean motor manufacturer, has run into trouble with its plans to sell its Pony car range in Britain. Distribution companies which have been negotiating with a Hyundai team based in London said the company was demanding impossible commitments in return for the franchise.

A senior executive of a major car dealer said yesterday: "They have basically one car to offer, which is quite unknown in the United Kingdom but they are insisting on the sort of contractual agreements that normally apply to a top-class range of imports."

We have dropped out, and so have a number of other firms. I shall be very surprised if they find any takers unless they make radical changes in their demands."

But at Hyundai's London headquarters yesterday, Mr H. V. Lee, in charge of the subsidiary, said: "We are talking to four or five companies which look very promising. We would like to complete these talks in September in time for an announcement in October."

On this timing, the intention would seem to be to make the announcement at the London Motorfair which is open between October 21 and 31.

Mr Lee declined to name firms involved, but it is known that about 50 have been contacted. Among the possible contenders is International Motors, the profitable West Bromwich-based group headed by Mr Robert Edmiston, a former Chrysler UK executive. It is already the United Kingdom concessionaire for Japanese Subaru cars and Italian Maserati sports cars.

Mr Edmiston is on record as saying that he wants to expand his company's activities because of the restrictions placed on imports of Japanese cars. Hyundai's present range is limited to 1300cc and 1600 versions of the Pony, produced in four-door, two-door, station wagon and pick-up versions. It is heavily based on the Mitsubishi Lancer, and uses its engines and gearboxes.

Colt Car Company of Cirencester, an ideal partner by reducing the need to carry large initial stocks of spares — always a stumbling block when introducing new makes to an overseas market.

Colt has just started work on a £3.5m development at Cirencester, with warehousing and offices. The present parts centre at Swindon will be transferred there. But a Colt spokesman has denied that his company was involved in the present talks.

Reliant of Telford is also a likely partner. The Pony would complement its present range of three-wheeled Kittens and four-wheeled Scimitar sports saloons. Mr Ritchie Spencer, Reliant's managing director, refused to confirm or deny persistent reports connecting the two companies.

A source close to Hyundai said: "The company already has a number of dealers who badly want the Pony. But they have got to get down to realistic negotiations very soon before it all goes sour on them."

This would seem to make Mitsubishi's British importer, an announcement in October.

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## More cash for tomato growers

Guernsey's Parliament yesterday voted to give local tomato growers a further £600,000 aid next year to enable them to compete on the UK market with what were described as "grossly subsidised" Dutch tomatoes.

This means that between 1980 and 1982, some £2.1m will be paid to the tomato growers.

The parliament also voted to support local flower growers with an export development quality bonus costing some £360,000 and payable to those joining a voluntary grading scheme. In addition, it was agreed to spend £85,000 on developing new horticultural crops and markets.

Many MPs voiced the fears of growers that the proposed scale of support would not be enough to help the horticultural industry through its present difficulties, and unsuccessful attempts were made to increase the aid to tomato growers of £1m, and to flower growers to half a million pounds.

## Florida prepares to rival Lloyd's

From a Correspondent  
Miami, July 23 — Lloyd's of London, the world's most venerable insurance exchange, will soon have a rival in the Florida sun.

As part of the rapid development of Miami as an international financial centre, plans are well advanced to open the insurance exchange of the Americas here in mid-1982.

The chief executive officer of the enterprise is Mr Alan Teale, a 50-year-old Englishman with 28 years of experience in insurance, most of it with Lloyd's.

He was chief executive of the British Insurance Brokers' Association until he joined the Miami venture at the beginning of last month. "We were told he was the most knowledgeable person in the world about Lloyd's," Mr Teale believes that it will take sometime before the Miami exchange is competing for business with Lloyd's.

Mr Teale is looking for at least 40,000 sq ft of office space and pursuing a wide range of contacts. An estimated 1,500 organisations and wealthy individuals have expressed interest in joining the venture as investors or brokers in hope of lucrative commissions.

Mr Teale expects the exchange to write insurance worth between \$40m and \$50m (£21m and £26m) in premiums in its first year and progress to between \$250m and \$300m within three years.

Lloyd's writes business worth about \$12,000m a year.

After underwriting syndicates and brokers will be taking on hundreds of employees and Mr Teale forecast that a short time after opening the number will be in the thousands.

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## IN BRIEF

## US prices rise and real earnings fall

United States consumer prices rose a seasonally adjusted 0.7 per cent in June, after an identical increase in May.

The Labour Department's price index for urban consumers stood at 271.4 per cent of its 1967 average, or 9.6 per cent higher than a year earlier.

United States real spendable earnings fell 0.2 per cent seasonally adjusted, for the second month in a row during June. Real earnings were 2 per cent below the year-earlier level.

Gross average hourly earnings rose to \$7.23 (£3.89) in June from \$7.18 in May and \$6.64 a year earlier.

Spendable average weekly earnings, adjusted for taxes but not for inflation, rose to \$220.34 (£118.46) in June from \$219.55 in May and \$205.36 a year earlier.

Japan pushes ahead  
Despite a slow-down in exports and domestic demand, half-year production figures indicate that the Japanese car industry seems likely to lead the world for the second consecutive year, a leading financial daily said in Tokyo.

Japanese carmakers turned out 5.64 million four-wheeled vehicles for the January-June period this year, up 3.3 per cent from the same period last year. The forecast comes with the country's half-yearly car production surpassing that of the United States since the second half of 1979.

French car imports  
Japanese-made cars accounted for only 2.3 per cent of overall registrations in France in the first five months of this year, compared with 2.6 per cent in the same period in 1980.

Soviet output up  
Soviet industrial output rose 3.4 per cent in the first half of 1981 compared with the same period last year according to last news agency. Overall targets for industrial output were met, although many sectors fell short.

Oil imports down  
West German crude oil imports in the first half of 1981 fell 9.5 million tonnes (19.2 per cent) to 40.4 million tonnes compared with the same period last year, provisional figures from the Federal Office for Trade and Industry show.

Despite the fall in volume, Germany's crude oil import bill rose three billion marks to 24.7 billion during the period.

More investment  
The British Technology Group is investing a further £1.15m in Agemaspark, of High Wycombe, which will increase the group's equity holding in the company to 49 per cent. The company makes metal-cutting machines.

French bankruptcies  
French bankruptcy judgments in the first half of this year totalled 10,564, 22.8 per cent more than in the same period last year, the National Statistics Institute announced.

Year-on-year increased showed: Industry 34.3 per cent, services 23.2, building 21.3, trade 21.2, transport 14.5 and hotels and catering 13.3.

Imports curb  
The European Economic Community Commission has authorised France to stop indirect imports of colour television sets and radio combinations from Hongkong, Taiwan and Japan for the remainder of this year.

Smaller surplus  
Malaysia's trade surplus fell from 7,627m ringgits in 1979 to 4,662 ringgits (£1,660m) in 1980. Japan, the United States and the European Community continued to be main trading partners.

£10m poultry deal  
A £10m contract to provide a poultry complex near Baghdad, Iraq, has been won by GKN and Ross Poultry. It is GKN's third major contract in Iraq in recent years.



# Lloyds Bank Group results for the half-year ended 30 June 1981

“Compared with the previous half-year, pre-tax profits are 20% up on the historical cost basis and 5% up after allowing for inflation. We were able to achieve these results because of lower provisions in the UK and a strong performance by Lloyds Bank International.

Retentions are sharply reduced by the special levy on banking deposits which the Chancellor introduced as a once-for-all measure in the 1981 Finance Bill. This levy amounts in our case to £58.6 million, and we have provided for it in full in our half-year figures as an extraordinary item on the assumption that the Bill will shortly become law.”

Jeremy Morse  
Chairman

## Interim dividend

The Directors of Lloyds Bank Limited have declared an interim dividend on account of the year ended 31 December 1981 of 8.625p per share (1980: 7.5p) payable on 28 August 1981 to shareholders registered on 31 July 1981. With the related tax credit the payment is equivalent to a gross dividend of 12.3p per share (1980: 10.7p).

## Comment on results

For the first six months of 1981, on a historical cost basis, Group profit before taxation at £174.7 million was up approximately £30 million (20%), compared with each half-year in 1980. However, on a current cost basis, inflation has the effect of reducing Group profit before taxation to £105.7 million (1980 second half: £101.1 million; first half: £63.4 million).

In the United Kingdom over the last six months, branch lodgements increased in line with inflation but advances were virtually flat. Costs continued to rise, and average base rate was 12.8%, compared with 15.7% in the second half of 1980 and 17% in the first half of 1980. However, the margin between average base rate and average deposit rate was 2.8%, compared with 2.1% and 2% in the two previous half-year periods, service charge income was higher and the charge for bad and doubtful debt provisions for the parent bank was £10.2 million, compared with £33.8 million in the second half of 1980 and £7.4 million in the first half of 1980. As a result, domestic profits, on a historical cost basis, were higher than the second half of 1980, but lower than the first half of the year.

International earnings, on a historical cost basis, also increased despite a turbulent global environment, and the principal international subsidiary, Lloyds Bank International Limited, maintained its progress with pre-tax profits of £30.6 million (1980 second half: £41.7 million; first half: £22.8 million).

After deducting taxation, minority interest in subsidiaries and the interim dividend, as well as providing for the special once-for-all levy on banking deposits, profit retained on a historical cost basis was £54.6 million, but, on a current cost basis, there was a deficit of £13.9 million.

## Group profit (historical cost basis)

(unaudited)	6 months ended Note 30 June 1981 £ million	6 months ended 31 December 1980 £ million	6 months ended 30 June 1980 £ million
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Limited and subsidiaries	173.7	140.6	139.9
Share of profits of associated companies	12.7	12.7	11.8
Interest on loan capital	186.4	153.3	151.7
Profit before taxation and extraordinary item	11.7	8.2	6.9
Taxation	174.7	145.1	144.8
Lloyds Bank Limited and subsidiaries	40.1	52.6	24.3
Associated companies	5.2	5.0	5.9
Profit after taxation	45.3	57.6	30.2
Minority interest in subsidiaries	129.4	87.5	114.6
Profit before extraordinary item	0.9	0.5	0.4
Extraordinary item: provision for special levy on banking deposits	128.5	87.0	114.2
Profit attributable to the shareholders of Lloyds Bank Limited	58.6	—	—
Dividend	69.9	87.0	114.2
Profit retained	15.3	16.4	12.8
Basic earnings per £1 share	54.6	70.6	101.4
Fully diluted earnings per £1 share	74.7p	51.0p	67.2p
Dividend per £1 share	68.1p	46.9p	61.7p
(gross equivalent)	8.625p	9.6p	7.5p
	(12.3p)	(13.7p)	(10.7p)

## NOTES

1. Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Limited and subsidiaries is stated after charging provisions for bad and doubtful debts as follows:

	6 months ended 30 June 1981 £ million	6 months ended 31 December 1980 £ million	6 months ended 30 June 1980 £ million
Specific	16.0	44.7	7.9
General	8.3	7.2	8.0
	24.3	51.9	15.9

2. The Group's shareholding in Lloyds and Scottish Limited was increased from 39.3% to 50.2% in March 1981 at a cost of £26.0 million. At the end of June 1981, as a result of an Offer for the remaining share capital, the Group's shareholding was increased to 59.9% at a further cost of £23.1 million; the Offer remains open for the remaining 40.1% of the share capital. The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited, which owns 39.3% of the issued share capital of Lloyds and Scottish Limited, intends to defer any action with regard to the Offer until the report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in relation to competing bids for its own capital has been published with the Government's decision on the recommendations. The latest available financial information relating to Lloyds and Scottish Limited is that published for the six months ended 31 March 1981 and the Group's 39.3% share of those results has been included in share of profits of associated companies in these interim results; this share amounted to £4.5 million (1980 second half: £3.4 million; first half: £4.0 million).

3. Taxation has been provided on the basis of a UK corporation tax rate of 52% and the charge takes account of the effective rate estimated for the year. Provision is not made for deferred taxation in respect of accelerated depreciation allowances relating to equipment used in the business or leased to customers where there is a reasonable probability that such taxation will not become payable in the foreseeable future; consequently, no provision has been made for the six months ended 30 June 1981, although a total provision of £52 million was made in 1980 because of the exceptional level of leasing business in that year. If full provision for deferred taxation had been made, the taxation charge for the six months ended 30 June 1981 would have been increased by £37.8 million (1980 second half: £26.4 million; first half: £41.8 million).

4. The Finance Bill 1981 contains provisions for the special levy on banking deposits. The cost to the Group will be £58.6 million, and this amount has been provided in full as an extraordinary item in the six months ended 30 June 1981.

## Supplementary information

Analysis of operating profit (historical cost basis)	6 months ended 30 June 1981 £ million	6 months ended 31 December 1980 £ million	6 months ended 30 June 1980 £ million
Interest income	1,485.8	1,402.1	1,292.1
Interest expense	1,029.5	951.5	896.3
Net interest income	456.3	450.6	395.8
Provisions for bad and doubtful debts	24.3	51.9	15.9
Net interest income after provisions	432.0	398.7	379.9
Other operating income	154.4	133.7	116.7
	586.4	532.4	496.6
Operating expenses:			
Staff	367.6	253.6	230.3
Premises and equipment	55.8	50.1	45.8
Other	89.3	88.1	80.6
	412.7	391.8	356.7
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Limited and subsidiaries	173.7	140.6	139.9

## Lloyds Bank Limited (parent bank)

Charge for provisions for bad and doubtful debts	6 months ended 30 June 1981 £ million	6 months ended 31 December 1980 £ million	6 months ended 30 June 1980 £ million
Specific	6.2	33.8	3.9
General	4.0	3.5	3.5
	10.2	33.8	7.4

## Group current cost profit

(unaudited)	6 months ended Note 30 June 1981 £ million	6 months ended 31 December 1980 £ million	6 months ended 30 June 1980 £ million
Operating profit of Lloyds Bank Limited and subsidiaries in the historical cost accounts	173.7	140.6	139.9



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Safeguarding investors

Disturbingly, a common thread is emerging at the Department of Trade where only a major rumour involving the securities industry goes into action which the City has been pressing on it for years. It has taken all the fuss over secret share buying to convince the Department that new rules on concert parties are necessary. And it is now only after a series of disturbing events in the private investment world that the Department has promised a long-overdue review of the ways investors are protected, specifically through the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958.

The Department itself acknowledged that a review was long overdue four years ago when it issued its consultative document on amendments to the Act, but with the change of Government and two more pressing Companies Acts taking precedence that came to naught. Indeed the Government indicated earlier this week that pressure of Parliamentary time made it highly unlikely that anything could be done during the present life of the Government.

The City has long been pressing its case for reform of this area of statutory legislation, since it has been perfectly obvious to anyone in the securities business that the 1958 Act in any case was in no way capable of dealing with an investment industry that mushroomed in the 1950s and 1960s.

It also seems to have taken the collapse of licensed dealers to prompt the Department into rushing through new legislation for this area of the investment business when the association of Licensed Dealers has had some worthwhile proposals — albeit not sufficiently watertight to catch one of its members in Norton Warburg — on the stocks for almost three years.

One of the key areas the Department will have to deal with is just what constitutes an "investment" since the lack of any clear definition has hamstrung past attempts to reform the legislation. Open-ended investment trusts have also sprung up increasingly over the past year or so where controls similar to those on unit trusts have long been recognised as necessary. One thing that all this underlines is that the City's self-regulatory mechanism is not quite as toothless as it is made out.

● Thursday came and went with MLR left unchanged at 12 per cent. That is not altogether surprising, on two scores. First, of course, the general idea these days seems to be that, if lending rates are to move, then it should be the commercial banks that take the initiative with MLR then coming back into line. Second, it seems increasingly clear that the political determination to resist a rise in base rates means that the authorities will try to stick to their guns, at least until round-tripping becomes a serious problem, or further downward pressure on sterling calls for a general reappraisal of policy.

The behaviour of the discount houses at today's bumper £1,000m Treasury Bill tender is clearly of considerable importance. The bulk of the issue — £800m — is a special one of 5-week bills designed to mature on the same day that the half-yearly payment of Petroleum Revenue Tax falls due on September 1. Unless the houses are considering selling some of the bills on, they have to weigh up the prospective cost of financing the bills over 5 weeks. At the moment 5 week money costs around 14½ per cent compared with 12 per cent or so for day-to-day funds.

One of the problems for the houses, however, lies in judging just how long they will in fact be holding the bills. If for instance, the civil servants' industrial action is called off in the near future and there is a sudden surge in back tax payments, will the authorities be buying the bills in ahead of time? Or would they first resort to dusting down a few of their other expedients, such as gilt edged sale and repurchase agreements with the clearing banks?

● In the meantime, MFI has been working on its debt structure after the rise in gearing following status to put it on a longer-term basis, but the group's plans for a sale and leaseback deal on its Northampton distribution centre have fallen through and net borrowings are some £3.5m higher at £18.7m.

Not surprisingly, MFI is cautious about the current year but the selling area is set to increase — a dozen new stores are planned for the current year — and cost pressures like wages will continue to ease. The underlying confidence is reflected in the maintenance of the final dividend at 2.2p gross a share here the yield after yesterday's 3p gain to 63p is around 6 per cent. Profits this year could be on course for say £15m and with the group's strong asset backing the shares could be due for a rerating in the not too distant future.

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tion in the process plant industry for a smaller amount of work.

The drop in Davy's turnover from £752m to £671m is an indication of both the more hostile conditions, and a lower level of activity throughout the group, while the forward order load at the end of June was virtually unchanged at £1,036m from two years earlier. Within this figure the United Kingdom-based contracting companies, whose profits fell £1m to £17m last year, have suffered worst; their forward workload has fallen from £525m to £386m in the past two years.

So with the shares up 1p yesterday to 187p, the yield on the unchanged dividend is 5.1 per cent and the prospective fully taxed p/e ratio is about 13. Given the long-term prospects for a company like Davy, which are enhanced by the weakness of sterling, the shares look reasonably valued on trading grounds. The crucial short-term influence of course is whether the Monopolies Commission gives Enserch the go-ahead. Its original terms are now worth about 224p and it would probably have to be at least 250p to get Davy. There are of course those who feel the bid will be blocked for political reasons, but if that does happen the downside in Davy looks fairly limited.

## MFI Furniture Improving margins

In its 10-year life as a public company, MFI Furniture has until last year a record second to none, with earnings growing almost 25 per cent a year and a niche in the self-assembly market where demand was growing faster than the furniture market generally. Last year things began to go wrong with the group missing the forecast it made at the time of the Status Discount takeover, and the low level of consumer spending on furniture slicing interim pretax profits from £8m to £4.5m.

Against that nervous background, yesterday's news that the drop in pretax profits from £16.7m to £11.7m was a creditable showing although the Status contribution is unquantified at this stage of the game. The key to the better second half performance is the way the group has held its own in its trading margins through rigorous cost cutting, and at the net level there was in fact a 2 per cent improvement to 7.2 per cent.

Meanwhile, MFI has been working on its debt structure after the rise in gearing following status to put it on a longer-term basis, but the group's plans for a sale and leaseback deal on its Northampton distribution centre have fallen through and net borrowings are some £3.5m higher at £18.7m.

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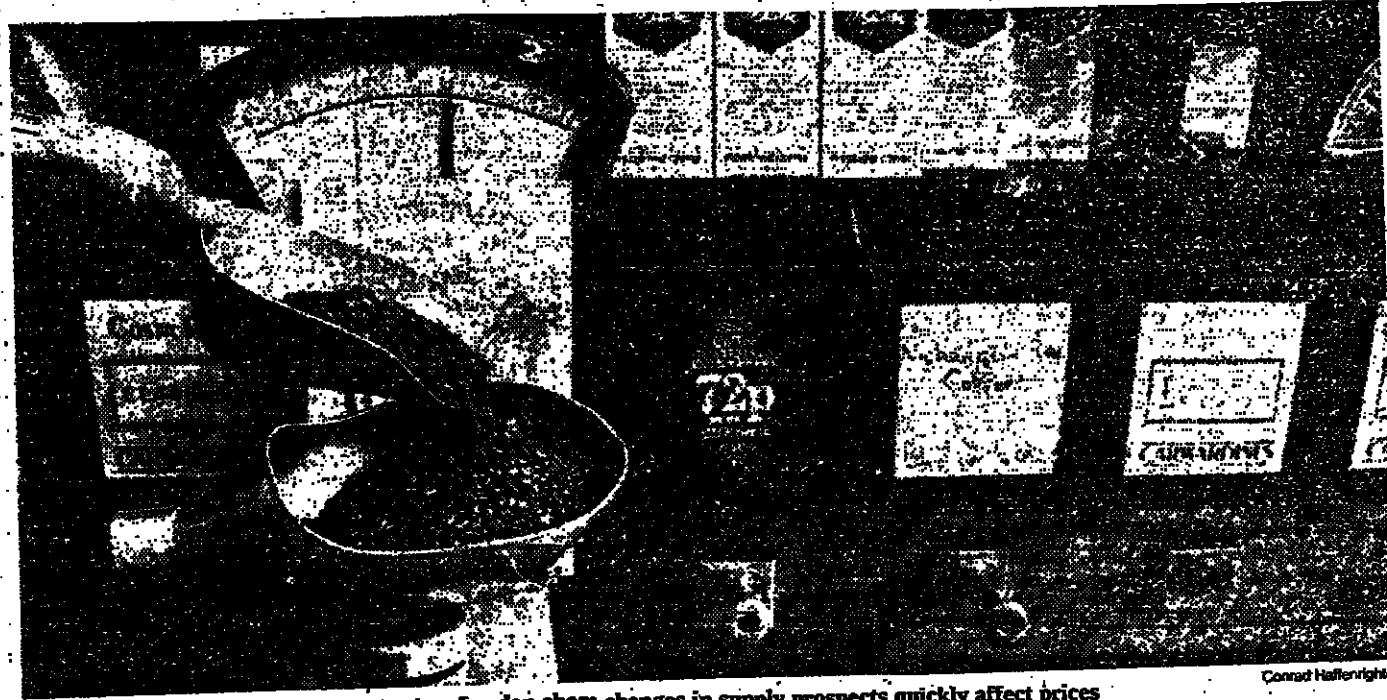
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## A cold wind blowing through the coffee market



Coffee beans in a London shop: changes in supply prospects quickly affect prices

Coffee traders and processors round the world are anxiously awaiting the outcome of an official Brazilian inquiry into the effects on the coffee crop of cold winds and frost on Monday and Tuesday night. But, almost regardless of the extent of the damage, coffee consumers probably face higher prices over the next couple of months. Coffee is always vulnerable to weather, partly because of the altitude at which the trees thrive. In 1975 a frost, now legendary in the trade, savaged the Brazilian crop and started a four-year run of high prices. As a precaution against a repetition, the Brazilians moved some 200 million coffee trees from the state of Paraná to the more northerly state of Minas Gerais which is less prone to bad winter weather. Brazil has more than 3,000 million coffee trees.

But there are also suspicions in the trade that Brazil is taking advantage of market fears of a real shortage in order to push up prices. Certainly, the market reaction has been more than a little suspicious. On Monday coffee for immediate delivery was 166½ a tonne in London. Last night it was £1.08.

Some coffee traders argue that after almost a year's decline coffee prices were too low. A reaction to the unusually small part of the unusually abrupt turn-around in the London and New York markets during the middle of the week. More important is the market's estimate of the underlying supply and demand position for coffee. In the 1980/81 season, which expires in September, world production of 81 million bags (a bag is 60 kilograms) is estimated at only about 2 million bags more than consumption. Stocks at the end of the season will be about 23 million bags.

At the moment, however, Brazil is completing the harvest of the 1981/82 crop, which, at an estimated 32.1 million bags, should be a record. Brazil's internal consumption is 7.5 million bags, and under the 1982/83 coffee agreement it is allowed this year to export 13.2 million bags. Much of that is already sold, so

there is a large surplus overhanging the market.

This surplus has been important in keeping international coffee prices down. The processors claim that consequently retail coffee prices — more than 30 per cent of coffee sold in the shops is "instant" — have tended to fall.

But the events of the last few days have changed that. Brazil was expecting a slightly lower crop in the 1982/83 season of between 27 and 30 million bags. On the assumption that domestic consumption remains the same and that higher export quotas are agreed at the September meeting of the ICO, Brazil's surplus would be six to eight million bags.

The frost could eliminate all of the surplus, because coffee is effectively sold a year in advance. If 20 per cent of the crop has been lost, there will be no surplus at all. If the damage is any greater, a serious squeeze could develop on prices and supplies.

The prices that will now influence the market are those for the yet unharvested crop which will be delivered in 1982/83. These forward prices

also push up the price of coffee for immediate delivery.

So the extent of the frost is vital. All that is known definitely so far is that on Monday and Tuesday nights substantial areas of Paraná, São Paulo and Minas Gerais provinces experienced weather cold enough to damage the buds which are about to flower. Some of the branches may also have been harmed.

At present it is not thought that the trunks of the trees were burnt, so even if the 1982/83 crop were reduced, the 1983/84 crop will not be affected. But to ascertain the true extent of the frost's impact will take several days. Teams from the Instituto Brasileiro de Café will be working over the weekend surveying trees across an area the size of Europe.

The sheer magnitude of the coffee growing region is one obstacle to a swift assessment. Another is the risk of further frosts. After the temperature seemed to rise a little on Wednesday the latest reports indicate another cold spell.

Should this bring frost, coffee prices are likely to go up again. Higher prices may mean that

consumers will have to dig deeper into their pockets, but they also mean greater revenue for producing countries.

Last year Brazil earned about £2,700m from coffee exports. Sales this year were expected to be \$500m less. Higher prices, however, could yield about the same revenue as in 1980.

This explains market suspicions that Brazil has exaggerated the frost damage. There was a similar scare in 1979, although it was nowhere near as serious as in 1975. Last year frost damage was minimal and, contrary to the usual seasonal trend, prices declined throughout the frost season.

Since that season can last until September recent events are widely believed to have altered sentiment in the coffee markets fundamentally. From being strongly bullish, expecting prices at least to stay weak, if they did not fall further, dealers now foresee prices staying above £1,000 a tonne until about the end of September.

September is an important month because the ICO will meet then to hammer out the new season's export quotas.

There is a reasonable chance, however, that the organization will raise members' quotas before that date.

Quotas have been cut four times — by a total of 5.6 million bags — since this season started. But if the ICO indicator price in New York records a moving average of 115 cents a pound over 20 days, the last quota cut of 1.4 million bags will be restored.

The market will therefore be watching the price, already at the required level, like a hawk. No dealer will dare go short, and many roasters, afraid that they will be obliged by their already low stocks to buy supplies at higher prices, will probably decide to cover themselves.

For Brazil, however, the frost may have brought a temporary breathing space. This year's record crop is partly the result of trees replanted after 1975 coming to maturity. The country had no hope of selling so much coffee and there were hints that it would leave the ICO.

Michael Prest

## Technology

## Japan gives the computer experts a fright



Control room at Three Mile Island nuclear power station during a visit by former President Carter: operators were overwhelmed by computer printouts.

Urgent talks are taking place between officials of the Department of Industry, industrialists and university research groups about the direction in which design work for advanced computer systems should be encouraged, and there is more than a tinge of desperation in the discussions.

They have been prompted by a strategy document that explains the background to a massive research and development programme mounted by the Japanese for a "fifth generation" of machinery intended to dominate computer technology in the 1990s. The Japanese programme amounts to a fundamental change in the orthodox way of designing and operating computers. Experienced designers in Britain describe the project as breathtaking.

The new computer systems are described as possessing "common sense". They are intended to provide the user with the office, factory, classroom, laboratory or military unit with an assistant that shares the same ideas and concepts as the user does. But the machine incorporates intelligence drawn from more than one expert in the sort of work being done and that knowledge will be shared by talking to the computer.

Professor Donald Michie of Edinburgh University, one of the scientists building up the mental systems of this type in Britain explains their advantage

over the conventional type by looking at how accidents happen. He cites the commission of inquiry into the Three Mile Island nuclear plant accident whose report said: "The critical cause of failure of the power station operator was bewilderment arising from communications emerging from the main control computers."

The operators were apparently overwhelmed by more computer print-outs and mess-

ages than it was possible to handle; they needed a "common sense" assistant that had done the analysis and said simply: "It is going to blow up. Put emergency procedures into action."

Professor Michie says that computerised air traffic control is approaching the "same level of inscrutability" in understanding between the human controller and the computer.

The strategy document explains the fifth generation machines were prepared by the Japanese Information Processing Development Centre, which is funded by Japan's Ministry of International Trade and Industry. It formed the guidelines to the 100 leading electronic firms supporting the programme.

The argument for the "fifth generation" computers was made in the context of the shift towards the advanced technology high value-added and knowledge-intensive industries which started in Japan more than a decade ago.

The examples of the development of high value-added products cited in the report include: 1. cameras, cars, timepieces, control devices and precision instruments, given higher value

by the incorporation of micro-processors; 2. the development of advanced computer programming packages; 3. extensive use of computer-aided design in industry; 4. intelligent robots for manufacturing.

The paragraph that follows is a bluntly stated Japanese exaggeration to say that Japan's computer technology was established by formerly imitating and following IBM's technology, contrary to the ideals stated above.

"Now that Japan has become the second most advanced country in the world in terms of computers, following the same path could not be condoned, and the obligation is for Japan to lead the world in this area, by means of the development of new technology based on original concepts."

"The scale of the computer industry, presently at \$50,000m, will grow to \$200,000m by the end of the 1980s. At present IBM accounts for \$20,000m of the total, a situation not found in any other industrial sector. It is obvious that it is the nation's (Japan's) responsibility to shoulder a considerable share of the computer industry."

That commitment is sending shudders through American firms as well as British ones. Moreover, there are solid reasons for believing the Japanese can make the jump from the existing orthodox designs to a revolutionary technology.

As they recognize in the report, much of the advanced research they have started is based on research into machine intelligent systems devised in laboratories in the United States and Europe, but which have not been pursued commercially.

For example, the strategy report refers to a programming system called Lisp, on which pioneering work was done by teams in Britain and the United States.

Lisp (list processing) is used for most research on artificial intelligence because of the limitations of conventional programming languages. For the results of research on artificial intelligence to be reflected in the new computer technology, it is necessary to develop machines which process languages like Lisp and to train many people in this field to accumulate experience to convert into practical commercial application.

In October this year the Japanese plan an international conference in Tokyo with invitations going to leading Western research workers, who have been told that Japan plans joint ventures with other countries. But on the evidence of the strategy report, showing the programme for the fifth generation is founded on the results of foreign research, many academics are hesitating to join an event that may be little more than a further brain picking exercise.

Professor Donald Michie, head of the Machine Intelligence Research Unit, Edinburgh University does not intend to go to the conference. He says that experience has demonstrated that the ideas all go one way. He says that the United States and Britain are perhaps still ahead in artificial intelligence research, but not for long if the Japanese continue with their effort.

Pearce Wright

## Business Diary: Memories made of plastic

### Beales' choice

A line from that splendid sixties film *The Graduate* sounds in the ears of the graduates of the University of London as they put an arm round the head and whisper: "I've got one word to say to you, my boy...plastics!"

Surely nothing could be more soignée, more brutish, more redolent of modern philistinism and practicality than that word?

But the plastics industry is over a hundred years old and BXL Plastics and Rubber Institute by publishing a booklet entitled "Go on and prosper — reminiscences of the early days of the plastics industry" by Harry Greenstock.

It is a quaint little volume, illustrated with sepia photographs and casting an incongruous new light on that unglamorous sounding industry.

Greenstock tells how the world's manager tried to shoe his children with Nylolite shoes; the children wanted to be to burst into flames, but it just went lame instead. As Greenstock observes: "The roads were too hard and pebbly then for Nylolite."

The chapters on pay and conditions are more predictable: 4s 8d for a 55½ hour week...and so on.

Mention must be made, however, of the works blacksmith, Bob Balls. Greenstock writes: "He was stone deaf and renowned for his fisherman's tales. He was a confirmed poacher and proud of being known as the biggest liar in the work."

### Quango time

Value-added tax was introduced to Britain in the 1972 Budget. Nine years later the Government has almost decided how retailers should treat VAT in the prices they quote and Mrs

Beales' choice. Market gossip, doubtless scurrilous, has it that some of the loudest of England's foreign exchange dealers are none too happy about Treasury intervention. It is not its foreign exchange intervention they are complaining about, but its alleged continued intervention in the way dealers conduct that policy.

Whether or not the tales are purely apocryphal, the departure of Mike Beales, the Bank's chief of foreign exchange dealer, appears to be totally unrelated. Beales, 36, has been with the Bank for some 18 years and in the foreign exchange desk for three and a half years.

He is off to the Royal Bank of Canada to manage their foreign exchange and money market operations in London.

Foreign exchange dealers at the Bank all have difficult career decisions to face at some stage. While they are on the foreign exchange desk, they enjoy a significant earnings supplement to bring them closer in line with the going market rate for foreign exchange dealers.

But all good things come to an end. Once they approach the time when they may have to develop their Bank careers away from the dealing and therefore stand to lose the supplement — they have to decide which way to jump. Beales is jumping over the fence.

Usually debates involve the box office greats — Newman, Redford or Streisand. William Smithers is not an actor, but a recognizable name, but on other days he was awarded \$3m by a court after he claimed that he was given an improper billing in a TV soap opera.

MGM Film company officials say that they will appeal against the verdict, while Smithers' lawyer said that he believed that

Sally Oppenheim's announcement on VAT-inclusive pricing in the Commons yesterday will be especially welcome to an almost unheard of body called the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee.

It is precisely four years since this body, set up under the Fair Trading Act 1973, reported that the quotation of VAT-exclusive prices affected consumers adversely and should be prohibited.

That Mrs Oppenheim has now adopted their recommendation will be good for Mrs A. Viner, the chairman, and Professor W. A. Wilson, deputy chairman, to know, since their committee, 13 members strong, has never had anything to do since it finished considering VAT in July, 1977.

What is surprising is that the CPAC's members are still paid and that it is one of those quangos that has still not featured on any Tory hit-man's list.

**Eclipsed stars** In Hollywood "star billing" is no trifling matter. Hundreds of hours are often spent quibbling over what actor gets what sized billing on the title of the picture. The higher the billing the bigger the star and the more money he can command.

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He has advised them on the Green Paper relating to companies buying their own shares

it was the largest award ever given for improper billing and the first of its kind in the television industry. The case was something of a landmark, he said, and was perturbed by the size of their name on the screen will rush to get justice.

MGM was ordered to pay the actor \$300,000 for bad faith contract, \$300,000 for bad faith contract, \$300,000 for bad faith contract, \$300,000 for bad faith contract. The jury also assessed \$2m in punitive damages.

The case goes back to a 1976 soap opera *Executive Suite*, in which Smithers played an executive having an affair with his secretary. The 54-year-old actor's contract prohibited anyone except the series' top three stars from receiving higher name billing than he did.

But when the show was released, Smithers noted his name was placed twelfth after 11 other actors. He sued and his lawyer argues that if he had received the place promised he might have had the chance to become the star of his own TV series.

**Law man** Clearly Professor Laurence Barendt Gower — he is known as "Jim" — knew what he was taking on in heading the Government's review of the law governing personal investment advisers. He took the job and then went on holiday.

Professor Gower, aged 68, was until 1979 honorary professor of law at Southampton University. Since then he has been on the payroll of the Department of Trade, although they point out that this is not his only job.

He has advised them on the Green Paper relating to companies buying their own shares

and also on the incorporation of small companies. Critics of his appointment might point to the fact that that apart from his directorship at Pirelli Cable Works, his active service in



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Huge turnover in oils

A strong performance by oils and electricals enabled the account to end on a firm note yesterday.

Equities recovered from a cautious start with confidence returning as the morning wore on. The decision to leave interest rates unchanged was widely expected and made little difference to sentiment generally. Dealers reported some heavy new-time demand and the FT index, having been 1.1 down at 10 am, recovered to close 1.6 up at 518.6, a fall on the pre-royal wedding account of 6.0.

The demand for oils took many dealers by surprise with turnover described as huge. The recent £500m BP rights issue now appears to be out of the way, and many experts said the market was looking over-sold. The build up of tension

After many well anticipated takeovers in the market during the past few weeks, the market is being strongly tipped as the next. More than two million shares changed hands yesterday and the price closed 4p up at 71p.

In the Middle East was another contributory factor as well as was the latest bid for Conoco from Seagrams of more than £4,000m.

This has led to bid speculation among many of the British takeover candidates, with Lasso rising 23p to 597p, Tricentric 14p to 274p and Ultramar 18p to 506p.

Gilt-edged enjoyed further support in a thin market with more stable pound also proving beneficial. However, the constant pressure on interest rates has seen many investors holding off despite the benefit of 16 per cent yields.

By the close of business

longs were showing rises of £1 while at the shorter end of the market the lead was stretched to between £3 and £1.

Leading industrials failed to

gain much impetus from activity elsewhere in the market, with the lists displaying a mixed appearance at the close.

ICI, with interim figures out next Thursday, slipped 2p to 262p, while Unilever fell 3p to 553p. Distillers 3p to 217p, Grand Metropolitan 3p to 201p, Veeva 2p to 215p, Beechams 2p to 204p and Bowater 2p to 252p, while Dunlop added 3p to 77p on speculative buying following the increased stake by Goodyear Plaza.

Electricals were in an expectant mood awaiting the second reading of the telecommunications Bill in the Commons today. If passed, this is expected to give private companies the opportunity to compete with British Telecom for contracts. Plessey 10p to 344p, Standard Telephones 7p to 464p, Racal 7p to 417p and MEMEC 10p to 208p.

Engineers had Davy Corp 1p higher at 187p after its 18 per cent profits increase, with cent profits increasing 10p at 135p after interim news, and Drake & Scull adding 1p at 413p, also after figures.

Elsewhere in engineering, GM Fitch, where former Slater Walker man Mr Ian Wasserman recently bought a 19 per cent stake, was wanted, climbing 6p to 127p. Haden Carriers climbed 15p to 208p, but Staveley lost another 10p to 218p after Wednesday's profits warning from the chairman at the annual meeting. Metal Box added 2p to 160p after its own meeting, although Butterfield Harvey's produced a 21p rise at 25p.

Dowry continued to lose ground after recent impressive figures, slipping 9p to 247p amid suggestions that the shares look overpriced. Trading news added 3p to MFI, Furniture at 63p, while Berisfords good for a 2p rise at 67p.

British Sugar continued to make ground, rising 7p to 333p in the wake of the Government's sale of its 24 per cent interest. S & W Berisford,

which increased its stake in BS to 40 per cent, firmed up to 124p. Elsewhere, Law Land slid 4p to 123p after publication of the defence document after Churchbury Estates' unwanted bid. Churchbury, on the other hand, rose 5p to 740p.

Fears about the planned United States acquisition left Morgan Crucible 8p off at 128p with Arlington Motor 14p lighter at 88p after recent figures.

International Paint rose 3p to 201p still awaiting a Court-aids bid for the 12 per cent of the shares it does not own, and John Fman was again wanted, rising 7p to 162p as investors awaited the outcome of talks.

A deputation of institutional clients visited Chubb on Wednesday and came away in a bullish mood. The price rose 3p to 91p yesterday. However, Hawker Siddeley continued its uncertain run, sliding another 2p to 320p after a meeting with brokers Quilter, Hilton & Goodison yesterday.

Most of the oil majors were able to join in yesterday's run. BP rose 8p to 312p, Shell 3p to 382p and Burmah 7p to 125p. Premier was boosted 51p to 84p after bullish news at the annual meeting. Century also benefited from the annual meeting and rose 9p to 78p.

Equity turnover on July 22 was £194.13m (12.483 bar gains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Letrabet, Ultramar, Premier Cons, Tricentric, Burmah, Davy Corp, BP Ldn Inv Tst, KCA Int, Dowry, MFI, Lasso, Shell, BP New Nat West and RTZ.

Traded options: Total contracts fell to 1,975 after the previous day's expiry of the July series attracted 3,483.

Traditional options saw calls in most of the oils including BP New on 16p, Woodside on 31p, Atlantic Resources on 35p and Tricentric on 22p.

## Losses slow at Howard Machinery

Losses are slowing at farm equipment manufacturer Howard Machinery, but its world markets remain severely depressed and it is still battling to survive. Its aim now is to return to profit on substantially reduced manufacturing volume.

Mr Frank Alsop, the chief executive, said yesterday. In the six months to April 30 group sales fell by nearly 14 per cent to £20m while pretax losses eased to £934,000, compared with losses of £2,244m at the end of April 1980 and full-year losses of £2,522m before tax in 1979-80.

This year will show a reduced overall loss, Mr Alsop said. Dividend payments are unlikely to be resumed for some time. The shares fell 1p to 25p yesterday.

The first-half loss comes after interest costs of £1.14m, down from £1.76m. The group is trying to cut and contain debt wherever it can. Rationalization continues at its European subsidiaries in the southern hemisphere are still doing well.

Diamond Industries, the private United States company controlled by Mr Stanley Mann, still holds 16.9 per cent of Howard, mostly acquired in a dawn raid in February. Mr Mann met the board in March. He specializes in recovery of assets but Mr Alsop yesterday said he sees no sign of recovery in agricultural machinery anywhere.

## F and C offer oversubscribed

The F and C Enterprise Trust (FACET) offer for sale was oversubscribed with applications for the 12.5 million shares available totalling 16 million when it closed yesterday.

Some 75 per cent of the issue was previously allocated to institutions. Dealings in the partly paid ordinary shares, with warrants attached, will start on Tuesday.

About half of the portfolio will be initially invested in Japan and the United States and a large proportion of the remainder will go into unquoted companies and companies on the United Securities Market. Applications for 37.5 million ordinary shares received from persons who had indicated their intention to the directors to apply have been accepted in full. Applications for up to and including 75,000 shares will be accepted in full.

For 75,000 up to 200,000 shares inclusive, 75 per cent will be accepted.

## CONSUMER SPENDING

The first estimated figures for consumer expenditure seasonally adjusted at constant 1975 prices, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday.

	Percentage change over previous quarter	Percentage change over previous year
1979 1st Qtr	17.5	4.7
2nd Qtr	18.4	22.2
3rd Qtr	17.5	18.2
4th Qtr	17.9	9.5
1980 1st Qtr	18.4	9.2
2nd Qtr	17.7	12.5
3rd Qtr	17.7	0
4th Qtr	17.9	4.8
1981 1st Qtr	18.1	4.6
2nd Qtr	17.8	6.8

\*First preliminary estimate

## Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on a moderate scale yesterday. Houses paid between 11 per cent and 12 per cent for fresh secured money throughout the session, but the flow was sporadic and general trading often quiet.

## Sterling: Spot and Forward

Market rates (day's range)	July 23	1 month	3 months
New York	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
London	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Amsterdam	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Brussels	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Frankfurt	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Paris	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Stockholm	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Oslo	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Geneva	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Basel	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Madrid	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Barcelona	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Lisbon	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Porto	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Madrid	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Barcelona	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Lisbon	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575
Porto	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575	1.8525-1.8575

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was unchanged at 91.8.

## Indices

Bank of England	100	100	100
Sterling	111.5	111.5	111.5
US dollar	111.5	111.5	111.5
Canadian dollar	111.5	111.5	111.5
Schilling	111.5	111.5	111.5
Belgian franc	111.5	111.5	111.5
Dutch guilder	111.5	111.5	111.5
French franc	111.5	111.5	111.5
Italian lire	111.5	111.5	111.5
Yen	111.5	111.5	111.5

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement.

German D-mark 1971-1972 100.

Bank of England Index 100.

France 1971-1972 100.

Italy 1971-1972 100.

Netherlands 1971-1972 100.

Sweden 1971-1972 100.

Switzerland 1971-1972 100.

West Germany 1971-1972 100.

Denmark 1971-1972 100.

Spain 1971-1972 100.

Portugal 1971-1972 100.

Greece 1971-1972 100.

Turkey 1971-1972 100.

Japan 1971-1972 100.

South Africa 1971-1972 100.

India 1971-1972 100.

Sri Lanka 1971-1972 100.

Malaysia 1971-1972 100.

Singapore 1971-1972 100.

Thailand 1971-1972 100.

Philippines 1971-1972 100.

Indonesia 1971-1972 100.

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## Strong demand for oils

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Begin, Today. Dealings End, Aug 7. § Contango Day, Aug 10. Settlement Day, Aug 17  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

**§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days**

[illegible]



# MOTORING

## Yugoslavian car takes to the roads

The latest East European car to arrive in Britain is the Zastava from Yugoslavia and those familiar with Russian or Polish models will know what to expect, an old fashioned, though tried and tested, design at a very tempting price.

Like the Russians and the Poles, the Yugoslavs have built their modern car industry on licensing agreements with Fiat. These began in the early 1950s and production last year was 265,000 vehicles. The factory, 60 miles south of Belgrade, has recently been modernized with a £300m loan from the World Bank.

The manufacturing company is called ZCZ (Zavod Crvena Zastava) and it dates back to 1860. Originally its main activity was armaments but today, apart from cars, it makes trucks, vans, aircraft and heavy engineering equipment. Its vehicles are sold in several Western countries, including France, West Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The British importer is Zastava Cars (GB) Ltd, of Reading, whose chief executive, Mr Michael Heerey, was formerly with Volkswagen and Lada. He expects to sell 2,000 cars in the remainder of this year and 5,000 in 1982. He began with 30 dealers, now has 53 and expects to reach 100 by the end of the year.

Initially only one model is being sold here, the Zastava hatchback which is based on the Fiat 128. It will be joined, towards the end of 1982, by the Yugo 45, which uses the Fiat 127 floorpan and mechanical layout but has a squarer, Yugoslav designed, bodyshell.

The Zastava has an excellent pedigree for in its time the Fiat 128 was one of the best small cars in

Europe. But it was launched 12 years ago and has been superseded by more modern designs. That, in considering the Zastava's price, is what potential buyers must bear in mind.

The car is available in three and five-door versions, with a 1116 cc overhead camshaft engine mounted transversely and driving the front wheels. There is also a five-door Special with a 1290 cc engine. Suspension is independent all round and the standard specification includes British-made Good year Grand Prix S tyres.

At 12 feet five inches, the Zastava is an unusual length, falling half way between the Ford Escort and the Fiesta. The car is handily compact for parking and manoeuvring in traffic but despite having front wheel drive, space in the back is only just adequate for a tall person. The tailgate opens on a high-lipped, though good sized boot and the load area can be greatly increased by folding the rear seat down.

The 1100 engine develops 55 bhp, about average, but compared with modern cars such as the latest Escort, the Zastava feels rather underpowered. Acceleration to 60 mph through the gears takes a leisurely 18 seconds and it is often necessary to change down to third for overtaking. The claimed top speed is 90 mph but the amount of noise and vibration above 70 mph should dissuade most drivers from attempting it.

Otherwise, unless driven hard, the engine is not excessively noisy and there is not much wind noise. Fuel consumption is respectable, if not outstanding, for a 1100 cc car: it returned 29 to 36 mpg, but several models, including the Escort and the Austin Allegro do considerably better.

One of the best features of the Zastava is its roadholding, helped, no doubt, by those Goodyear tyres. The steering is not quite as precise as might be expected from a rack and pinion system and is a little heavy for parking; the brakes are effective but need strong pressure, reflecting the lack of servo assistance. Downward pressure is also



The Zastava - cheap hatchback from Yugoslavia

needed to engage reverse gear and there is a stickiness around first and second.

The ride is not a strong point, as may be deduced from a rear suspension that is based on leaf springs. Driven over even a moderately uneven surface, the car can become quite a bone shaker. The seats offer some compensation, giving good support to the back and at the side; they have reclining backs and adjustable head restraints.

Despite cloth seats and carpet, the car has a spartan look inside and the instrumentation is basic. The heater produces a powerful blast but the best form of ventilation in hot weather is to open the window.

The Zastava carries a three-year guarantee against corrosion. The underside, sills and wheel arches are coated with vinyl, which should help to protect them against rain, mud, salt and stones, all body sections are injected with wax and the front wheel arches are protected by plastic liners.

At £2,499 for a three-door, £2,749 for the five-door and £2,899 for the Special, the Zastava is one of the cheapest cars on the British market. It starts well below the Mini and beats the Escort by a clear £1,000. Whether it turns out

to be a bargain in the longer run will depend on its reliability and quality and how well it holds its price.

Based on a proven design, the car should not give much mechanical trouble, while quality will depend on Yugoslav standards of assembly and inspection. On my test model the doors needed a good slam and the locks were temperamental. As for second hand values, the experience of other East European cars is that they tend to depreciate more quickly than average and may be difficult to trade in for different makes.

### Four-wheel drive rivals

After a gap of five years, Toyota is re-introducing its four-wheel drive Land Cruiser to Britain. It has chosen to do so with just one version, a five-door estate powered by a 3.9 litre six cylinder diesel engine and costing £10,450. So within weeks of BL launching a four-door version of the Range Rover, almost comes a Japanese rival nearly £4,000 cheaper.

When the Land Cruiser was previously sold here it made little impact, possibly because its then petrol engine was too large, and too thirsty, for British tastes. Toyota reckons that the present diesel version should overcome these

objections and claims that the vehicle is generally superior to the one that came and went so quickly.

Comparing the latest Land Cruiser to reach Britain with the four-door Range Rover one finds many similarities as well as significant differences. In size, the vehicles are similar, 15 feet long, give or take a few inches, and nearly six feet wide and high. They seat five people in comfort and offer a large boot area, which can be extended by folding the rear seat down.

Each has an impressive towing capacity, which is why they should appeal to people with boats, horseboxes or caravans, while equally impressive off-road road traction enables one-in-one gradients and muddy fields to be taken in their stride. The Range Rover has permanent four-wheel drive; the Land Cruiser offers the two-wheel drive option for more economical driving on the road.

Thanks to its diesel engine, the Toyota wins on economy though with a 20 per cent improvement in fuel consumption as a result of a higher compression engine, the Range Rover is not far behind. The official fuel figures suggest that the Land Cruiser driven on the road should give 20 mpg plus and BL estimates for the Range Rover are 16 to 20 mpg.

The Rover's 3.5 litre V8 petrol engine beats the Toyota unit on performance and refinement, which is not to say that for a diesel the latter is sluggish or excessively noisy. Both vehicles suffer from a degree of vibration that makes them less pleasant to ride in than a car of a similar price.

Like so many Japanese vehicles, the Land Cruiser falls down on steering. There is a lot of free play and though the power assistance is welcome for taking the effort out of negotiating tight corners, it leaves the driver with so little feel as to give a false sense of control. The Range Rover's steering, also power assisted, is more precise and far preferable.

Peter Waymark

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# THE TIMES UNIVERSITY RESULTS SERVICE

## ULSTER

The following degree results from the New University of Ulster are published.

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

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# Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

## TELEVISION

### BBC 1

6.40 Open University: War and the Media; 7.05 Living Language; 7.30 The Case of the Missing Skills; 1.12 Regional News (but not London); 1.15 News and weather; 1.30 How Do You Do? Rhymes and counting games. Closes down at 1.45; 3.45 Trem: Waddens (For Welsh viewers); 4.18 Regional News; 4.20 Play School; Mrs C Renshaw's story Five Seagulls. Also on BBC 2 11.00 am; 4.45 The Space Sentinels: cartoon; 5.00 The Best of Horace Gallop: Showjumping at Olympia, driving a trotting horse at Appleby Fair, and a ride in the Norwich Union Mail. With Susan King; 5.30 Paddington Bear; 5.40 News; read by Kenneth Kendall; 5.55 Regional news

magazines; 6.20 Nationwide: The programme completes its preparations for a Royal Wedding party; 7.00 Comedy Classic: The Liver Birds. This is the one about the stolen pet rabbits and how the mope of Mrs Hutchinson (Valerie Phillips) sets all to rights. With Nerys Hughes, Elizabeth Estensen and Mollie Sugden (as Mrs Hutchinson) (r); 7.00 Comedy Classic: Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? With Rodney Bewes and James Bolan as the lads who are determined not to find out the result of a lunch-time football match (r); 8.00 Grace Kennedy: The singer's special guests tonight are the King's Singers (from BBC 2); 8.30 Love Story: A Chance to Sit Down. Part 1 of a four-part serial about the world of ballet. The relationship between Barbara (Jan Francis) and

George (Del Henney) takes a surprising turn; 9.05 News, read by Richard Baker; 9.25 The Royal International Horse Show: The John Player Trophy, at Wembley Arena. Two rounds of competition over different courses are followed by a jump off against the clock. The commentators are Raymond Brooks-Ward and Stephen Hadley. Introduction by David Vine; 10.45 That's Rich: First in a new series. Comedy and music show, featuring Craig Richards as the heart-throb of West Country weather forecasters. Featuring Kit Hain and the Bard of Torbay; 11.15 News headlines; 11.20 Film: Umanu, Wittering and Zig (1977) Black comedy based on Giles Cooper's original radio play. The screenplay is by Simon Raven. It's about a teacher (David Hemmings) who

claims that his class murdered his predecessor and are now planning to do the same to him. With Douglas Wilmer, Anthony Haygarth, Carolyn Seymour. Director: John Mackenzie. Ends at 1.05 am approximately; Regions

### BBC 2

6.40 Open University: The GCMs Link-Up; 7.05 Market Differentiability; 7.30 Taylor Polynomials; 11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1; 4.20 (Five Seagulls). Closes down at 11.25; 2.15 Racing from Ascot: It's the first day of the July meeting. Peter O'Sullivan, Jimmy Lintley and John Hamner are the commentators for live coverage of the races at 2.30, 3.00, 3.30 and 4.05; 4.50 Open University: Knotley Fields (2); 5.15 Materials and their Environment: corrosion;

5.40 A Matter of Form; 6.05 A Poet and Politics; 6.30 Mining; 6.55 Six Fifty-five Special: Visit to the Royal National Rose Society's garden at St Albans. Jack Harkness reveals some of the secrets behind the cultivation of the world's most popular flower. We also learn how the blooms are linked with Christian Dior and the world of fashion and with music (Cleo Laine and Bucks Fizz); 7.30 News; with sub-titles for the hard of hearing; 7.45 Gardeners' World: Geoffrey Smith joins Arthur Billitt at Clack's Farm. They'll early

vegetables and advise on the safe use of pesticides; 8.10 Film: The Empress Dowager (1975) Hong Kong-made film, with English sub-titles. With Lisa Lu as the Dowager Empress of China who has ruled the country for nearly 50 years. When her nephew, the Emperor, decides it's time for some reforms to be introduced, she hits on an idea to prevent the move. Ti Lung plays the Emperor; 10.15-11.00 Burrows: Singers: First of six programmes starring the Welsh tenor. His guest tonight is the soprano Norma Burrows (see choice); 10.50 Newswatch;

11.35 Bullseye: First in a new series in which the top darts players compete for the Bullseye Trophy plus £2,000. The opening match is between two European players — Luc Maréchal from Belgium and Stefan Lord from Sweden. The second match is between Eric Bristow, current world champion, and Ceri Morgan, the number one Welsh player; 12.05 Laurel and Hardy: Beau (1931) Oliver and Stanley join the corrupt Legion. It's a pastiche of Beau Geste. The two comedians help to repel an attack by blood-thirsty Arabs. Ends at 12.45.

### Thames

9.30 Larry the Lamb: A Toy Town story (r); 9.40 The Story of Wine: New series. Baron Philippe de Rothschild narrates; 10.10 The Buffaloes: Cartoon; 10.15 Nature of Things: The wilderness that was once the home of David Thoreau. Songs by Pete Seeger; 11.05 The Ante Room: The Kate O'Brien novel, adapted as a serial. Episode two; 12.00 A Handful of Songs: from Maria Morgan and Keith Field; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: The story of Brer Rabbit and the Tar Baby, told by Peter Davison (r); 12.30 One in a Hundred: New series. Parents of mentally handicapped children tell how they received professional assistance. With Derek Cooper; 1.00 News; 1.30 Thames area news; 1.30 Remembrance: The Country serial. The bouncing back of Amos Bearely (r); 2.00 Houseparty: Household hints and studio chat; 2.25 Best Sellers: Final episode of the drama serial The Word, about some ancient writings (r); 4.15 Watch It A Bug's Buzzy cartoon; 4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty: Albert (Tony Maiden) takes the horse to Maybury Fair (r).



Stuart Burrows, Norma Burrows: BBC 2, 10.15 pm

4.45 Freetime: School holidays programme. Youngsters go to Cambridge to improve their skills on the tennis court and a young author reads his own story; 5.15 Sale of the Century: The Nicholas Parsons quiz show; 5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.30 Thames Sport.

### London Weekend

7.00 Winner Takes All: General election coverage; 7.30 Return of the Saint: Part one of Collision Course. Simon Templar, helps a beautiful woman after the killing of her husband. With Ian Ogilvy, Gayle Hunnicutt, Stratford Johns (r);

### Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing; 6.10 Sunday Today; 6.30 Today; 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament; 9.00 News; 9.05 Desert Island Discs (Carl Swan); 9.45 Happy Returns; 10.00 News; 10.05 International Assignment; 10.30 Daily Service; 10.45 Morning Show: "Good Investments" by Celia Dale; 11.00 News; 11.05 Graduating for the dale; 11.50 Natural Selection; 12.00 News; 12.05 You and Yours; 12.27 The Year in Question; 1.00 World at One; 1.40 The Archers; 2.00 News; 2.02 Women's Hour; 3.00 News; 3.05 Afternoon Theatre: "Ira and the Warbler" (Tom Elliott); 4.05 Weigh-In; 4.15 Sick or Sad; 4.45 Story Time: "King Solomon's Mines" (Part 10); 5.00 News; 5.05 Going Places; 5.10 News; 5.15 The Archers; 7.20 Pick of the Week; 8.10 Profile Trevor Nunn; 8.30 Play Quotation; 8.35 Letter from America; 8.50 Kaleidoscope; 10.00 The World Tonight; 10.10 News; 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Rain Forest" (Part 10); 11.15 The Financial World Tonight; 11.30 News; 11.45 Glyn Worsnip; 12.00 am News.

### Radio 3

6.55 am Weather; 7.00 News; 7.05 Morning Concert: J. Elgar, Rachmaninov, Poulenc; records; 8.05 Morning Concert (continued); Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Tchaikovsky; records; 9.05 News; 9.10 The World Tonight; 9.20 News; 10.00 The World Tonight; 10.10 News; 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Rain Forest" (Part 10); 11.15 The Financial World Tonight; 11.30 News; 11.45 Glyn Worsnip; 12.00 am News.

### Radio 2

6.55 am Weather; 7.00 News; 7.05 Morning Concert: J. Elgar, Rachmaninov, Poulenc; records; 8.05 Morning Concert (continued); Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Tchaikovsky; records; 9.05 News; 9.10 The World Tonight; 9.20 News; 10.00 The World Tonight; 10.10 News; 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Rain Forest" (Part 10); 11.15 The Financial World Tonight; 11.30 News; 11.45 Glyn Worsnip; 12.00 am News.

### Radio 1

6.55 am Weather; 7.00 News; 7.05 Morning Concert: J. Elgar, Rachmaninov, Poulenc; records; 8.05 Morning Concert (continued); Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Tchaikovsky; records; 9.05 News; 9.10 The World Tonight; 9.20 News; 10.00 The World Tonight; 10.10 News; 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Rain Forest" (Part 10); 11.15 The Financial World Tonight; 11.30 News; 11.45 Glyn Worsnip; 12.00 am News.

### REGIONAL TV

#### ATV

As London except: starts 9.45 am. 10.00 am News; 10.10 am News; 10.20 am News; 10.30 am News; 10.40 am News; 10.50 am News; 11.00 am News; 11.10 am News; 11.20 am News; 11.30 am News; 11.40 am News; 11.50 am News; 12.00 am News; 12.10 am News; 12.20 am News; 12.30 am News; 12.40 am News; 12.50 am News; 1.00 am News; 1.10 am News; 1.20 am News; 1.30 am News; 1.40 am News; 1.50 am News; 2.00 am News; 2.10 am News; 2.20 am News; 2.30 am News; 2.40 am News; 2.50 am News; 3.00 am News; 3.10 am News; 3.20 am News; 3.30 am News; 3.40 am News; 3.50 am News; 4.00 am News; 4.10 am News; 4.20 am News; 4.30 am News; 4.40 am News; 4.50 am News; 5.00 am News; 5.10 am News; 5.20 am News; 5.30 am News; 5.40 am News; 5.50 am News; 6.00 am News; 6.10 am News; 6.20 am News; 6.30 am News; 6.40 am News; 6.50 am News; 7.00 am News; 7.10 am News; 7.20 am News; 7.30 am News; 7.40 am News; 7.50 am News; 8.00 am News; 8.10 am News; 8.20 am News; 8.30 am News; 8.40 am News; 8.50 am News; 9.00 am News; 9.10 am News; 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